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# Farm and Ranch Review

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NUMBER 1

APPLIED SCIENCE READING ROOM

CALGARY, ALBERTA  
JANUARY, 1956

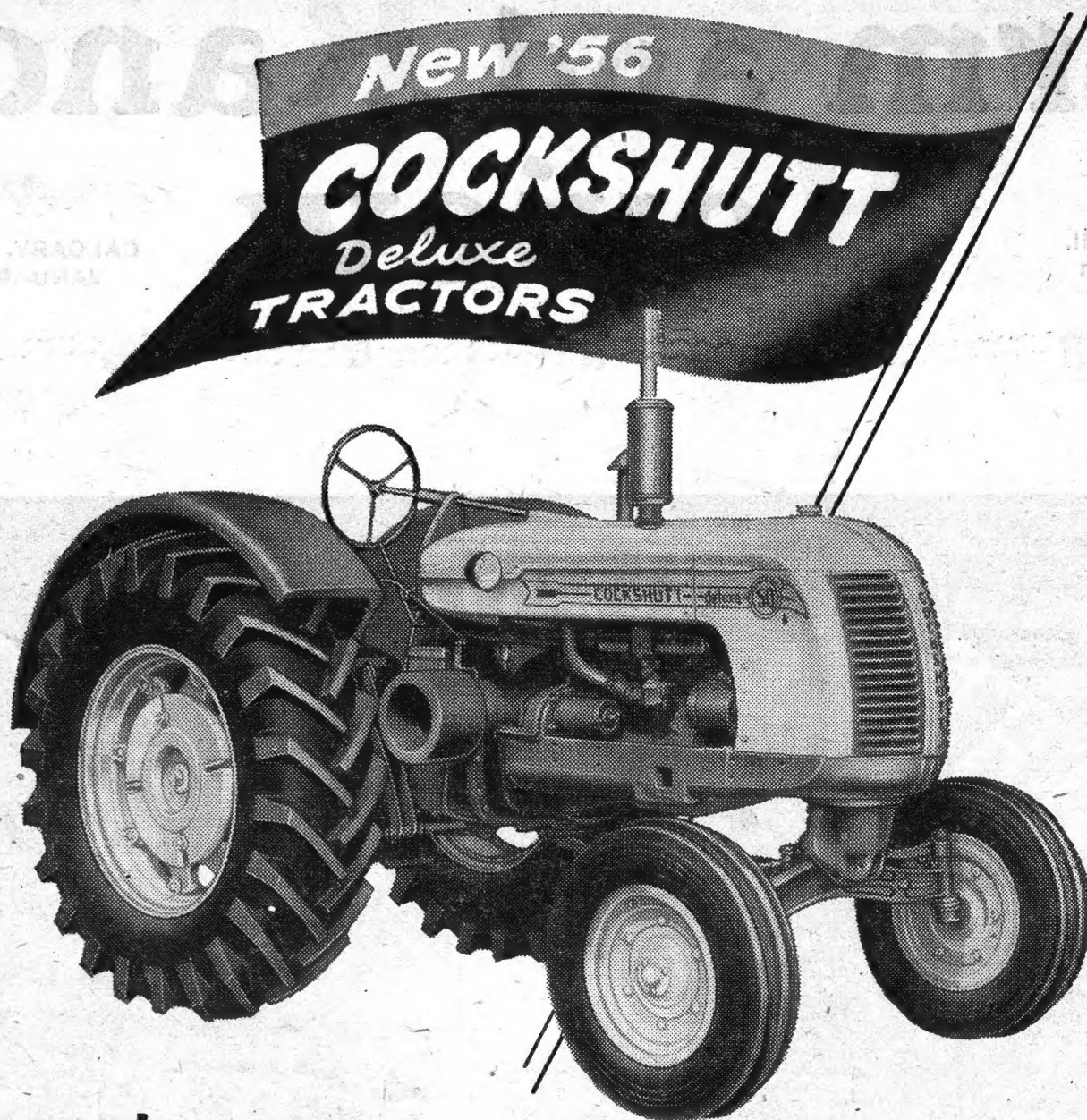
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# Farm and Ranch Review

Western Canada's Pioneer Agricultural Magazine

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No. 1

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## Late Flashes

IN answer to a question asked him  
at the Alberta Farmers' Union  
annual convention in Edmonton, Rt.  
Hon. C. D. Howe, minister of trade  
and commerce, intimated that the  
federal government would give con-  
sideration to relieving farmers of at  
least some of the storage costs on  
grain held by the Wheat Board...  
It costs 10c a bushel per year for  
carrying a bushel of grain in a coun-  
try or terminal elevator... last year  
the Wheat Board paid out something  
like \$35,000,00 for storage charges on  
grain.

Farmers demand for cash advances  
on stored grain is growing... the  
\$1,500 bank loan is not popular...  
grain has been moving more freely  
with more cars being made available  
... car shortage has been a bugbear  
this past autumn... there was space  
at the Pacific coast terminals that  
could not be filled for that reason...  
other freight took the cars... federal  
government will resist cash advances  
as long as possible.

Big problem is to get rid of low-  
grade carryover wheat... the U.S.A.  
took quite a bit of frosted 5 wheat...  
Poland is taking low-grade wheat  
through Vancouver... if exports  
keep up at recent rate marketing  
quotas should soon be lifted... the  
longer outlook for wheat exports ap-  
pears fairly reassuring, what with a  
short crop in Argentina and better  
quality of 1955 Canadian wheat...  
U.S.A. likely to cause some trouble  
but is not winning many friends or  
gaining customers with current wheat  
disposal tactics.

The Swift Current experimental  
station has conducted tests in wheat  
seeding with various types of drills,  
for a six-year period. Under identical  
conditions, using 1½ bushels of seed  
per acre, the results in production  
were: press drill 25.8 bushels, double  
disc drill 25.2, one-way disc with seed-  
er box and packer 23.8, discer with  
seed-box and packer 21.6.

## TESTS PROVE



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OINTMENT A



OINTMENT B



OINTMENT C

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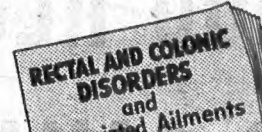
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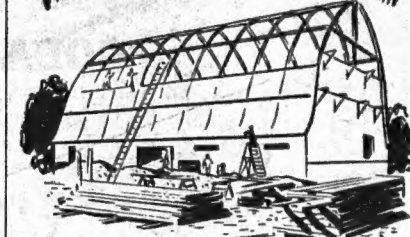
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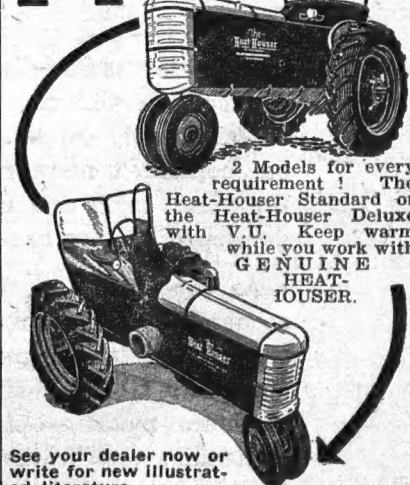


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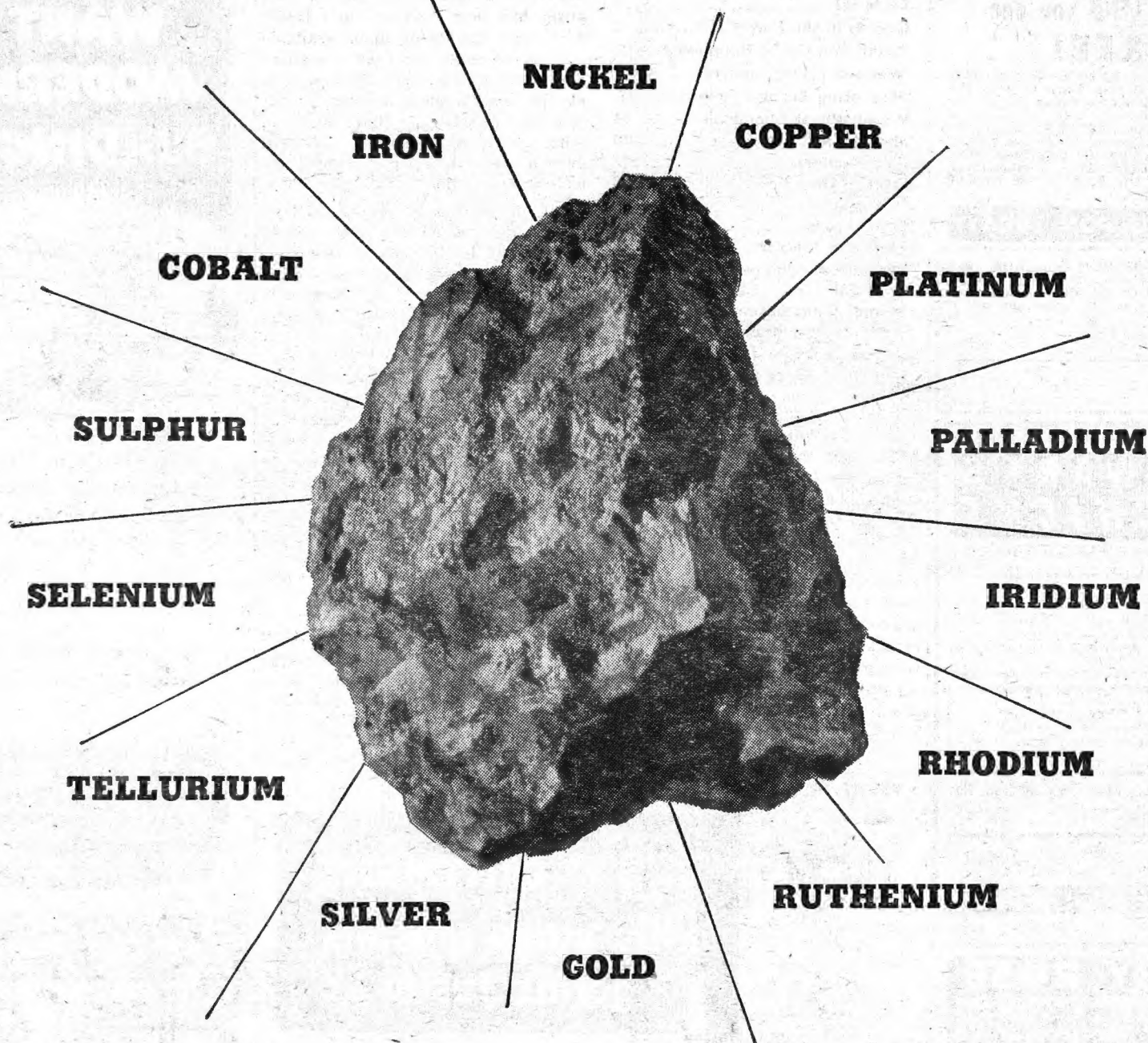
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# Farm and Ranch Review Editorials

## January Is The Gate Of The Year

*The clock strikes twelve, the year is dead!  
Another page from life is torn;  
No matter how that page was read,  
This is no time to mourn.  
The future's yours; rejoice, instead,  
Another year is born.*

The wheel of time has once again turned full circle and we are now well launched into the New Year, 1956. January was named by the ancient Romans after the two-faced Janus, god of the gates and the beginnings. This month is the gate of the year.

Of course we wonder what lies ahead. We live in an era in which there is the constant danger of new wars with dreadful weapons. But life goes on and mankind becomes inured to dangerous living. There is work to be done, in field and forest, in the market place, in mines, in offices and tranquil rooms. "To travel hopefully is better than to arrive," remarked Sir James Scott Watson, "and true success is to labor."

The new year, which is but a continuation of all the yesteryears, will bring changes. We cannot turn back scientific progress. We cannot isolate ourselves from the spirit of the times. And change, if wisdom guides us, means growth and should mean understanding.

People living now are participating in one of the most momentous eras of all history. We are in the throes of a tremendous transition from an age that has died to one that is being born. Such an event is marked by human worries, turbulence and agonies. The hope is that out of the present chaos will emerge a newer and better concept of life. "It is not to taste sweet things," said Carlyle, "but to do noble and true things that the poorest son of Adam dimly longs."

With these thoughts our hearts and minds might well be steeled to face the new year of 1956 with courage and fortitude. Courage is the standing army of the soul and fortitude is the shield.

★

## Democracy and Totalitarianism

THE history of mankind shows that not all civilizations — only the finest — have been based upon freedom. Ancient Egypt was ruled by a mercenary priesthood. Persia, Babylon and Assyria were governed by a succession of military tyrants. Throughout the known world the rights of the individual were meagre and transitory. History honors Greece because for centuries her citizens were strong enough to dispense with tyrant kings. Greece achieved and maintained freedom of thought and speech and economic life, and developed, under the stimulus of liberty, the most vital and creative civilization antiquity has known.

The birthplace of modern democracy was in Great Britain. We have to look back a good many centuries to find the beginning of British liberty. We see it as a rough and obstinate growth, heaving the rich soil under the oaks of lordly

estates, breaking out in Wat Tyler's time and in Cromwell's, and in the era of the second James; forcing through the Great Charter, the Bill of Rights, the Reform acts; never perfected yet never giving up. We see the spread of democracy and of empire, side by side, confused and turbulent, but we see democracy ever marching forward.

As a contrast to freedom and democracy we have before us the idea of the totalitarian state. Some call it fascism, others nazism, other communism. In a totalitarian state the government is absolute. There is nothing beyond it. It conforms to no rules of conduct. It recognizes no rights of the individual. There can be no question as to the right or wrong of what it does. It is without sin and beyond criticism. The state is totality. Individuals in the state are like cells in the human body. All the worth which any human possesses, or any spiritual reality, he possesses only through the state.

★

## The U. S. A. Plan For Wheat Price Supports

UNDER the farm policy of the United States government the support price for wheat is \$2.08 for the 1955-56 crop year. That figure is the national average for No. 2 wheat and the support price can vary from 15c to 20c above and below the national average.

The Commodity Credit Corporation is the government agency whose operations provide the guaranteed prices for farmers, by means of loans on wheat in store in country or terminal elevators or in approved farm bins. In elevators the loan is made at the support price less the cost of storage. There is a fixed maturity date on each loan and the date is the same for all wheat loans.

Wheat which has been inspected and held in sealed storage on a producer's farm is eligible for a loan at the full support price level for the particular quality of wheat and the particular location of the farm.

All loans must be approved by the local Production and Marketing Administration Country Committee, which is composed of farmers elected by the producers of the county.

To a large extent the loans are made by local banks and the interest rate is 3½ per cent per annum. The U.S. government guarantees the loans and the banks get 2 per cent and the government 1½ per cent.

A farmer may sell his wheat on which he has obtained a loan at any time by paying the principal and interest, or he may turn the wheat over to the government at the maturity date in full settlement of his indebtedness.

To qualify for loans a farmer must abide by his acreage quota, as established under the national planting allotment. Under that plan the government apportioned 55,000,000 acres among individual farms for wheat production in 1955 and the figure for 1956 will be the same.

## Robert Burns, The Pride Of Scotland

EACH year on January 25th Scotch people all over the world join in paying tribute to one of the greatest men of the race, Robert Burns, the Ayrshire poet. He did not have the education which usually seems necessary to the full-flowering of poetic genius. But he had a rare native talent, a charm and beauty of expression, which made him the idol of the Scotch, and also to millions of other nationalities. His poetry appealed to the ordinary run of people who felt they had a champion in this gifted son of Scotland. That feeling still prevails. It was voiced in a tribute to be paid by Robert Ingersoll, on his visit to Burns' birthplace, as follows:

*Though Scotland boasts a thousand names  
Of patriot, king and peer,  
The noblest, grandest of them all  
Was loved and cradled here.*

*And now the world, through all the years,  
As long as day returns,  
The tribute of its love and tears  
Will pay to Robert Burns.*

★

## Plumer's Observation To Gordon Commission

IN a brief presented to the Gordon Economic Commission, Ben. S. Plumer, chairman of the board of directors of the Alberta Wheat Pool, outlined the history of wheat marketing in Canada over the past quarter of a century. He showed how the speculative marketing of grain had broken down completely during the 1930's, which brought about the formation of the Canadian Wheat Board. He told the commission that when an alternative marketing system, wheat board and open market, was tried out the result was a loss of \$81.6 million dollars to the federal treasury. The open market system got the grain when prices rose above the Wheat Board floor price, and the Board got the grain when prices reached calamitous depths. Such a dual system is unworkable.

Mr. Plumer traced the history of agriculture in the prairie provinces and showed how this great industry is owned almost in its entirety by Canadian people and the money received from sales of agricultural products is retained in Canada. Over the period from the discovery of oil at Leduc until 1954, he said, the farmers of the prairie provinces spent \$1¼ billions for farm machinery and repairs alone, which is more than was spent by all of the oil companies during the same period for oil exploration, and almost as much as was spent for oil exploration and production combined.

Said Mr. Plumer, in conclusion: "I submit that food is the scarcest of all vital commodities in the entire world. There are too many hungry people for us in Canada, where food is in super-abundance, to be complacent. I believe that the top six inches of soil in the Prairie Provinces is the greatest asset Canada possesses, and that our region here in the West is destined to fill a place of increased importance in the economy of Canada and of the world in the long years ahead."



## British Viewpoint Of Wheat Disposal Schemes

TO aid in getting rid of surplus Canadian wheat it has been frequently suggested that give-away programs be tried out, also that foreign currencies be accepted and barter deals made with wheat importing nations. As other wheat exporting nations have made some progress in getting rid of surpluses by such practices many people in this country (including the editor) have had the idea that we should make a similar effort.

The annual convention of the Manitoba Farmers' Union listened to comments of W. G. Coventry, British commissioner to Canada, on such schemes. He said that the United Kingdom would not accept a free gift of wheat for the British still have their pride. The acceptance of foreign currencies still created a liability and, in his opinion, no wheat importing nation would agree to such deals. Barter arrangements necessitated specific orders to manufacturers, a complicated process for democratic nations to undertake. Any or all of such schemes, said Mr. Coventry, will not provide a solution to Canada's surplus wheat problem.

★

## Bad News For Canadian Farmers

CANADIAN farmers may well prepare themselves for shocking news from Washington when the United States congress meets this month. The farm problem is going to receive important attention. As 1956 is an election year, and as the farm vote is of vital importance, members of congress will probably be ready to go to any length to win the allegiance of the farmers.

It is not beyond possibility that the sliding scale of parity prices, ranging from 75 to 90 per cent, which has been in operation, will be thrown overboard and a return to the 90 per cent figure brought about. That means increased production of price protected farm products.

There is also the likelihood that measures will be adopted providing for the disposal by one means or another of the seven billion dollars worth of food and fibre products now under government ownership. Much of such surpluses may be given away.

Any such plans will hurt Canadian farmers. But the U.S. political parties, absorbed in plans for victory in the autumn election, do not give a tinker's cuss word for what happens to our farm people.

If the United States undertakes to give away even half of its farm surpluses, which would amount to around \$3½ billion dollars, the results would be ruinous to competing nations. You can't compete with Santa Claus!

The assurances of fair competition given by Ezra T. Benson, U.S. secretary of agriculture, while in Canada last year, carry no weight with politicians seeking political power.

\* \* \*

If the present tries to sit on judgment of the past it will lose the future.—Churchill.

## The Bushel Is Outdated

THE bushel is an antiquated measure and many progressively-minded people think it should be discontinued, particularly as a measure of grain. The suggestion is that 100-lb. units be substituted therefor.

The bushel is really a measure of volume rather than weight. The United States uses the Winchester bushel which is equivalent to 2,150.42 cubic inches. Great Britain uses the Imperial bushel, which provides a content of 2,219.36 cubic inches.

Transactions in grain, however, are made on the basis of weight rather than bushel volume. Wheat is 60 lbs. to the bushel, oats 34, barley 48 and flax 56. If grain was sold by the hundredweight, instead of the bushel, price calculations would be much simpler and expensive "paper work" would be reduced in cost. Then it would be easier for the farmer to make comparisons between 100 lbs. of wheat and 100 lbs. of oats and barley.

A further step would be the provision of a simple standard for the export grain trade. Confusion is caused at present by the use of the term "ton". There is the short ton of 2,000 lbs., or 33.3 bushels, the metric ton of 2,204 lbs., or 36.73 bushels, and the long ton of 2,240 lbs., or 37.33 bushels.

While most people agree that the use of the bushels should be discontinued, no one seems to have found a way to make the change. We would suggest that the International Federation of Agricultural producers should make the first move in the form of a recommendation to the United Nations. There seems to be no other central body in a position to take decisive action.

★

## Brighter Future For Dairy Industry

THE dairy industry is of vital importance to the human race, and it is likely to become more so in the future, thanks to the researches made by scientists. For instance, experiments conducted at the University of Minnesota have demonstrated that cows inoculated against diseases will produce milk which has the properties of providing protection to those who drink it, against those diseases. The scientists who conducted the research maintain that the "protective milk", if drunk by human beings, can ward off sore throat, measles, smallpox, diphtheria and streptococcal infections. A professor lecturing in Alberta recently made the statement that through this means mankind's lifespan can be prolonged substantially.

Another discovery made by United States scientists is that glutamic acid is a remarkable brain food. The most readily available form of glutamic acid is in cow's milk. An experiment made with rats showed that those fed with the acid outdid their normally fed fellows in overcoming obstacles designed to complicate the search for food. The next test was made with children. Those of one group received 12 grams of the acid daily, the amount contained in three pints of milk.

The other group had an ordinary diet. The first group showed remarkable mental progress.

These instances are factual and not idle stories. There is scientific proof behind them. If we were conducting an advertising campaign on behalf of the Canadian dairy industry it is such things as we have mentioned that we would emphasize. The dairy industry does not need to belittle competitive synthetic products. It should have the energy to develop its own products and the imagination to tell the story graphically to the Canadian people.

Cows' milk and its by-products provide the most healthful and most nourishing food for the human race. Milk and milk products are bone-builders, and good bones provide the basis for growth and for good health.

★

## One Reason For Decline Of Our Grain Exports

A DELEGATION of Japanese men toured Western Canada recently. They were people interested in the grain business and they came to see what Canada had to offer. They like Canadian wheat and Canadian barley. A couple of years ago Japan imported 40,000,000 bushels of Canadian wheat and 19,000,000 bushels of barley.

Yes, Japan would like to buy more Canadian grain, they said, and here is where that word "but" comes in. The Japanese are short of dollars. Canada buys about \$15,000,000 of Japanese goods a year while Japan has bought as much as \$119,000,000 of Canadian products.

Some German businessmen were in Canada a short time ago. They said their country would like to buy more Canadian wheat and coarse grains. Well, why not do so? The answer is a shortage of dollars in Germany. Germany has been buying about \$89,000,000 worth of Canadian products and selling Canada about \$45,000,000 of German products.

It seems, therefore, that one very important means of getting rid of grain surpluses is through the increased purchases of the goods and services of nations which are prospective grain customers. If Canadians do not buy more from Great Britain, Japan, Germany and other food deficient nations, we cannot expect to increase our grain exports to any appreciable extent.

\* \* \*

The most vital of materials is food. Unlike steel, copper, aluminum and rubber, food has no substitutes. With it all things are possible. Without it, armament gives no security.

\* \* \*

The Euphrates valley irrigation works were destroyed by Hulago Khan, insane grandson of Genghis. This valley once supported 30 million people. Its present population is 4 million.

\* \* \*

History celebrates the battlefields whereon we meet our death but scorns to speak of plowed fields whereby we thrive; it knows the names of the king's illegitimate children but cannot tell the origin of wheat. That is the way of human folly. — Henri Fabre.



### Measuring Hay In a Stack

THE usual practice is to allow 512 cubic feet to a ton of hay. Multiply the width of the stack by the length and the result by one-third the overthrow. Divide the total thus obtained by 512.

If a stack is 41 feet long, 14 feet wide and has a 27-foot overthrow, you would multiply 14 by 41 by 9 and divide the result by 512. The answer would be 10 tons and 46 cubic feet.

If hay has been in a stack for over 60 days, instead of dividing by 512, divide by 343 for "prairie wool," 422 for alfalfa, clover and timothy.

### Value of Half-Section Farm

AFTER four years' work with Alberta's Mixed Farm study, Alf. Petersen has reached an estimate of what it costs to buy and equip a farm in the Leduc-Wetaskiwin area. In 1954 he interviewed 26 farmers on half-section farms in the black soil zone, asking for a fair and conservative appraisal of the value of their real estate, machinery and breeding stock. The total investment in round figures averaged \$33,100 per farm — \$19,400 for land and buildings, \$6,700 for machinery and equipment, \$4,300 for livestock and \$2,700 in hay, feed and grain inventories on land.

### Measuring Grain In a Bin

THE simplest rough estimate is made by allowing three-quarters of a bushel to each cubic foot volume, i.e., multiply the cubical contents (in feet) by three and divide by four.

A more exact way is to multiply the cubic feet of grain by the factor .78. This gives measured bushels. If the sample is over or under the standard weight per bushel, adjust in this manner: When filled with 62-pound wheat, multiply bushelage obtained by 62 and divide by 60; or in the case of 30-pound-per-bushel oats, multiply by 30 and divide by 34.

Here are the mathematical rules for ascertaining the number of bushels in bins whether square, round or rectangular.

1. Determine the number of cubic feet in the bin.

(a) For square or rectangular bins multiply the length by the width by the depth.

(b) For round bins multiply the radius by the radius by 3.14 by the depth. (The radius is one-half the diameter.)

2. Convert cubic feet to measured bushels by multiplying the number of cubic feet by the factor 0.78.

3. Convert measured bushels to bushels by weight by multiplying the number of measured bushels by the actual weight per measured bushel of the grain, and divide by the legal weight per measured bushel (wheat, 60 lbs.; barley, 48 lbs.; oats, 34 lbs.; flax, 56 lbs.; and rye, 56 lbs.)

### NEW SOIL TESTING LAB.

The opening of an Agricultural Soil and Feed Testing Laboratory has been announced in a joint statement issued by L. C. Halmrast, Alberta Minister of Agriculture, and A. G. McCalla, Dean of the University Faculty of Agriculture. The Laboratory will be located in the Agriculture Building at the University and is designed to handle soil samples from farmers and greenhouse operators, and samples of home-grown feeds, either grain or forage crops. Commercial feeds and supplements will not be analyzed. Dr. A. Zitnak, a graduate of the University has been appointed Chief Analyst.

### Canada Thistle Control

By J. J. SEXSMITH

THE use of alfalfa as a hay crop continues to offer the best method for controlling Canada thistle on irrigated land or in areas of high rainfall. In the lower rainfall regions and under dry farming conditions, several control measures are worthy of consideration.

For relatively small areas, where soil erosion by wind or water is not too likely, a one-way disking at or near bud stage, followed by cultural workings to keep a black or near black fallow for the remainder of the growing season, can be expected to reduce the thistle stand to a point of near elimination.

The use of 6 to 8 ounces acid equivalent 2,4-D ester in grain crops, applied after the crop has reached the 4-leaf stage but before the early shot-blade, will prevent Canada thistle from producing seed in the crop but cannot be expected to reduce the infestation. It has been suggested that a fair degree of control can be obtained by using this selective treatment followed by a one-pound application of 2,4-D shortly after the crop has been removed.

The ester of 2,4-D, at 1 to 1½ pounds acid equivalent, can be used against Canada thistle in fallows or on non-cropped areas. Such treatment should be given when the thistles are in bud, and can be expected to cause a fair degree of thinning of the infestation. It is possible to use this type of treatment as a substitute for the second fallow operation, in which case a cultural operation should be given about two weeks after the chemical has been applied.

### Water Consumption Of Wheat

IT takes about 13 inches of water to produce a crop of about 30 bushels of wheat to the acre on summerfallow. That was the findings from tests made at the Beaverlodge Experimental Station in the Peace River region during 1953. In 1954 a test was made on stubble land and 15 inches of rain produced 24.2 bushels of wheat.

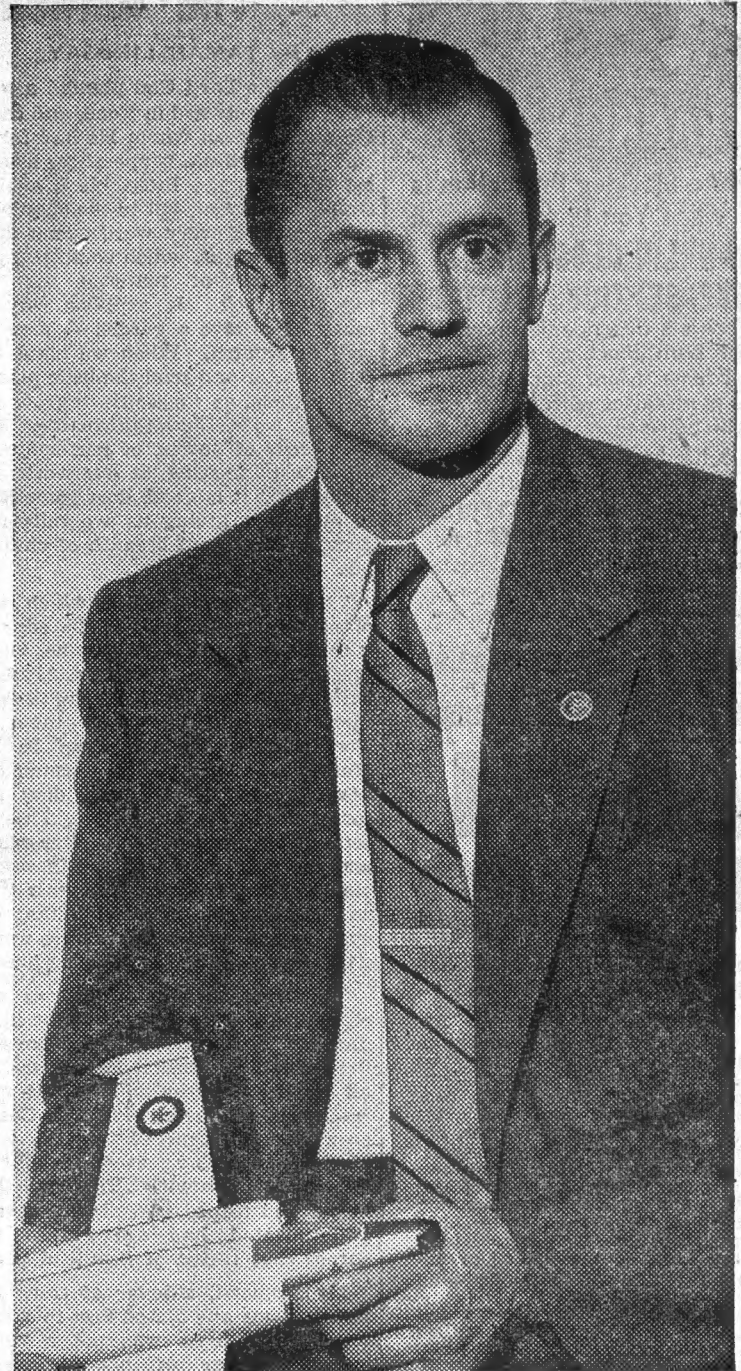
In both years Thatcher wheat was sown on May 20 and emerged May 28. On June 20th it reached the 4-leaved stage and entered the period of rapid expansion until July 20th or shortly before the wheat flowered. In that month two-thirds of the water requirement of the plant was consumed, which represented but one-third of the total growth period. This shows the importance of rains in June and early July.

### Western Moisture Conditions

MOISTURE reserves in the three prairie provinces are down from last year, particularly on stubble land, but not so much on summerfallow, according to a report by the Searle Grain Co.

The Searle statistics are as follows:

		Summer- Stubbleland fallowed Land % of normal.
Alberta—		
1955.....	74%	115%
1954.....	182%	120%
Saskatchewan—		
1955.....	59%	125%
1954.....	195%	141%
Manitoba—		
1955.....	86%	117%
1954.....	150%	127%
Three Provinces (Weighted)—		
1955.....	66%	119%
1954.....	187%	129%



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## The Garden In The Forest

By TAMAR LINDSAY

"AND the Lord God planted a garden, eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed." That, I think, is one of the sweetest verses in the Bible. It is such a simple statement, but to the enquiring mind, almost every word opens up a train of thought, which could prove a good source of material for the psycho-analyst. It explains why so many of us love a garden — men, as well as women. When we plant the seeds, water and tend the little plants, loving them, as we see them grow and develop, we feel like the creator. And that sense of power, of performing a miracle, of looking at our work and seeing that it is good, does something to ourselves, giving us a dignity and greater depth and breadth of character.

I remember a garden which was planted in virgin soil, at the edge of a forest of great Norway pine, under most unusual circumstances. My husband and I were living, at the time, in Sioux Lookout, a small town in Northwestern Ontario close to the Manitoba boundary. The summer had been excessively hot and dry, and forest fires were numerous. The sun set red and angry night after night, and the moon rose swathed in smoky clouds. Breathing the heavy air gave no refreshment to tired lungs, our eyes smarted and our ears were weary with the noise and din of flying planes.

Then one evening, the town was electrified by the news brought in by plane: "Cecil Carter and his crew of fire-fighters at Basket Lake were cut off by fire. Every able-bodied man was needed immediately." The Carter crew had been forced into the lake, losing everything, even their fire-fighting equipment. The fire had licked and leaped and destroyed, and still unsated had swept into and across that forest of beautiful pines.

My husband, a lover of trees and flowers, was one of the first to volunteer, although he was not a young man. Because of his organizing ability, and his familiarity with woods and sense of orientation, he was given a crew of fifteen men. Early next morning, the plane was loaded to capacity with men, food, tents, blankets and fire-fighting equipment. The morning was heavy and humid and again and again the plane tried to take off but could not lift. Then, as so often happens when men have reached a limit, God took a hand. It began to rain — soon it was a deluge, and then a cloud-burst. When it was over, the atmosphere lightened, and the plane was able to take off for Basket Lake. No rain had fallen there and the fire was still raging.

I have no intention of giving a detailed description of fighting a forest fire. But in order to arrive at the peculiar circumstances under which the little garden was planted, some references to the camp and the conditions during this particular fire is necessary. For almost three weeks the men were on constant duty. Each one, manned with axe and shovel, was given his own territory to patrol. The pump-men worked steadily with the hoses where the fire raged the forest. But my husband's crew did patrol duty, falling trees and digging, to keep the fire within bounds. It was arduous work and the men returned to camp dirty and very weary. All they wanted to do was to strip and bathe in the lake, then eat and rest. However, as the weeks passed, and the fire was about under control, the men had more leisure. They grew restless and inclined to be a little

quarrelsome. The excitement of fighting a living enemy was over. Just the dirty work of cleaning up, and watching for smouldering wood to burst into a flame was left to do, and it was very monotonous. They found fault with everything, and the cook, an amateur, went in fear of his life. A qualified cook was hastily sent for, while my husband busied the men, in the evenings, building a large stone fireplace for cooking purposes. When rice, tapioca, beans, and all kinds of dried fruit were flown in, and a Dutch oven manufactured, many and various were the dishes concocted on that stove.

Then an orchestra was formed. A message came to me, requesting my mandolin. A couple of the men sent for their fiddles, and mouth-organs were plentiful. Sheets of birch-bark stretched over the mouths of empty tin cans and tapped rhythmically with slender drumsticks, gave forth a satisfying cacophony of sound. The orchestra was a huge success, and night after night, the weirdest of all music played a dirge at the funeral pyre of the pines. Some of the men had good voices, and when the orchestra progressed so that a tune could be recognized, their voices rose in lovely harmony. How they loved to sing!

The fire was out. Danger was declared over, and in a day or two the men were to be flown home. My husband sifted some of the rich soil through his fingers, remarking how friable and rich with leaf-mould it was. Idly at first, a couple of the men began to dig. Then that Divine urge to do as the great Creator did, and plant a garden, had them digging with a will, until they had turned up a fair-sized plot. All it needed was some plants, and that could be soon remedied, for old Joe was going to town on the first plane in and could send out a supply.

When I answered a knock at my door, I saw a strange bearded creature, peering at me through red-rimmed eyes, who said: "Missis, the Fred wants some flowers." I thought that surely old Joe had taken leave of his senses. He was a Serb, and hard enough to understand. But he could demonstrate, and when he dug a spot in my flower garden and said again, "Mr. Fred wants some flowers," I knew what it meant.

When the plane flew out again, it carried pansies and hollyhocks, Chinese Lanterns and Bleeding-heart roots, for the forest garden. The men who dug the plot and planted the flowers never saw the result of their handiwork. But, the following year one of the pilots landing at Basket Lake, told of the strangest and loveliest little garden all a bloom at the forest's edge.

I wonder if today those Chinese Lanterns light the forest's twilight for a fairy orchestra.

"You look like a nice sensible girl, let's get married?"

"No, I'm just as nice and sensible as I look."

\* \* \*

A speaker at a woman's club was describing conditions in the far East. He was speaking of how little regard men had for their women. "Why," he said, "it's not uncommon over there to see a woman hitched up with a donkey."

A discouraged looking woman in the front row interrupted grimly. "That's not so unusual — you often see it here, too."

## Trees For The Farmstead

A WISE selection of trees for the farmstead will result in attractive fruit and fall foliage colors.

For example the Colorado spruce, a very valuable ornamental provides a pleasing blue background. The brilliant clumps of bright orange and red berries of red elders and mountain ash, the silver berries of the Russian Olive, orange berries of the Sandthorn, and the scarlet fruit of the buffalo berry, contribute color contrasts.

The Amur maple with its show of scarlet to red is perhaps the most outstanding among large shrubs. The autumn foliage of the Tartarian maple is yellowish to brown.

Red autumn foliage is also displayed on the following shrubs: saskatoon, some dogwoods, native plums and cherries, pambina cranberrybush, nannyberry, sumac, cornus, virginia creeper, and the pin cherry. Bronzy colors are noted on the mountain ash, pekin cottoncaneaster, some of the viburnum and schubert chokecherry.

Among the best plants displaying yellow to golden foliage are the larch, aspen, green ash, elm, and crabapples.

Grey and yellow grey foliage is found on the buffalo berry, sandthorn, Russian olive, silverberry and the silver willow.

## Parker Addresses U. S. A. Farmers

IN the past year Canadian wheat farmers have seen good Canadian markets taken over by United States wheat on the basis of special deals which cannot be described as ordinary commercial transactions. The result has been reflected in the inability of wheat producers in Western Canada being unable to deliver and sell their wheat at country elevators. That is where the United States disposal program really hurts.

The above statements were made by W. J. Parker, of Winnipeg, president of Manitoba Pool Elevators, in an address delivered to the Minnesota Farm Bureau of St. Paul. Mr. Parker maintained that the sloughing off of a hundred million bushels of U.S. wheat in overseas markets under the nation's disposal program did not solve the American wheat problem and had very serious effect on Canadian wheat producers. If Canada lost a market for 50 million bushels of wheat thereby, that brought about a decline of 10 per cent in the cash income of the producers of wheat in Western Canada.

Mr. Parker pointed out that wheat acreage in Western Canada had been maintained at about pre-war levels. On the other hand the U.S. wheat acreage had shot up by 21.2 million acres above pre-war in 1949, or more than the 1954 acreage seeded to wheat in Western Canada. The Dominion is keenly concerned about wheat as 75 per cent of normal production must find an outlet in export markets while in the United States the normal export is about 25 per cent of production.

United States wheat prices have been maintained at fairly high levels, the present floor price there creating an average farm price of \$2.08, while in Canada the average farm price is now supported at around \$1.25.

"Mom," said the small boy, "can I be a preacher when I grow up?"

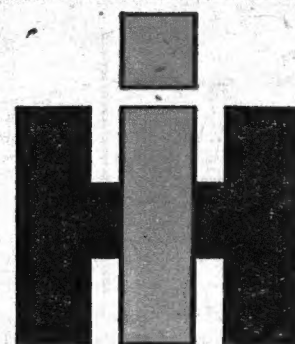
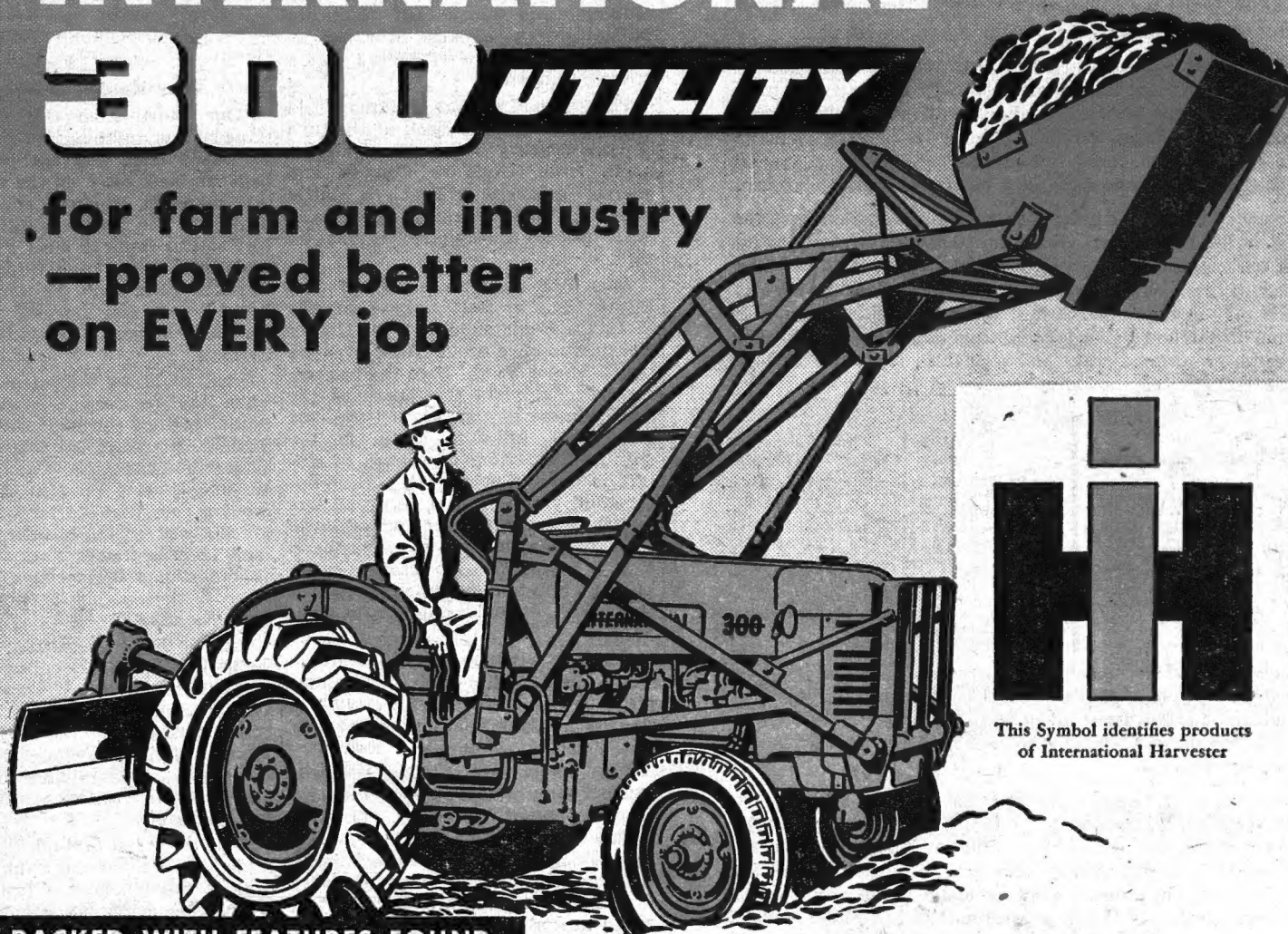
"Why of course, dear, if that's what you want to be."

"Well I do," said the boy, "because I suppose I'll be going to church all my life anyway, and it's an awful lot harder to sit down and be still than to stand up and holler."



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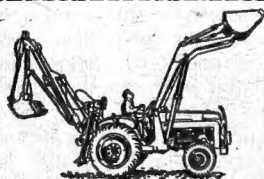
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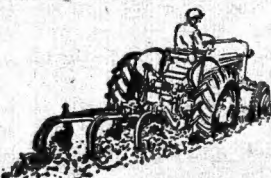
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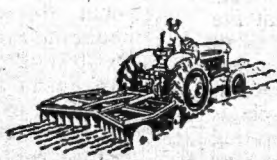
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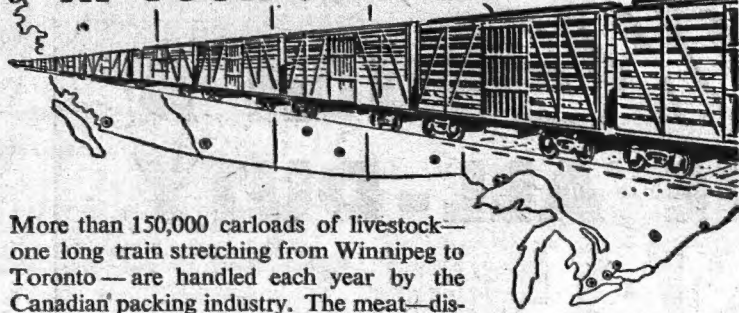
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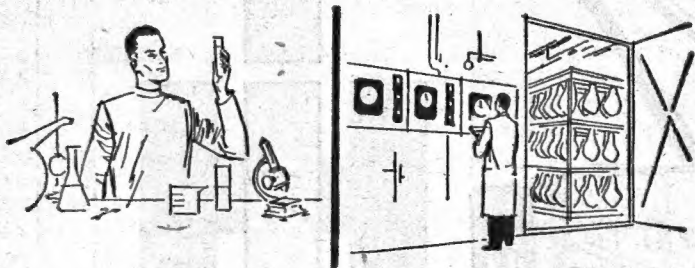
## AT YOUR SERVICE



More than 150,000 carloads of livestock—one long train stretching from Winnipeg to Toronto—are handled each year by the Canadian packing industry. The meat—distributed to 45,000 retail stores across the country—would fill a string of refrigerator cars a mile and a half long every day of the year.

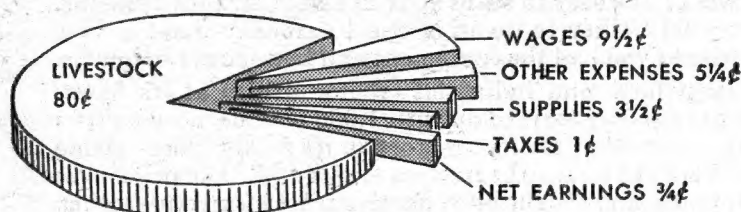
To meet consumer requirements, livestock must be converted by packers into many different forms—some 500 of them—ranging from carcasses and cuts of beef, pork and lamb to a wide variety of processed meats in individual packages. Products flow out of packing plants in many forms—fresh, frozen, cured, smoked, cooked. Various styles and sizes of packages assure consumers of a handy, wholesome product.

Another major function of today's packinghouse operations is the recovery and sale of by-products. For every 10 pounds of meat, the industry must sell 1.6 pounds of animal fats and grease, and 1.1 of tank products such as dried blood, bones and meat meal. Markets are also found for 2½ million hides, pelts and skins, over 4 million pounds of wool, hair and bristles and glands for medicinal uses. Handling poultry and dairy products, canned fruits and vegetables, feeds and fertilizer helps reduce the cost of marketing meat and by-products.



Plant engineers and technicians are constantly developing new methods and products so that each pound of every meat animal can be processed and utilized most effectively. Competition, both from within and without the industry, makes research a vital part of modern packinghouse operations.

To perform the wide range of services necessary in handling the tremendous volume of livestock marketed, Canada's meat packing industry has an investment of over \$150 millions in plants and equipment, and spends up to \$10 millions each year to further expand and improve its facilities. The industry employs nearly 25,000 people whose annual earnings are about \$75 millions. More than 2,000 salesmen and agents keep products moving into domestic and foreign markets.



The major part of the meat packer's sales dollar goes to the producer for his livestock. Wages make up another sizable portion. Then there are other expenses—fuel and power, maintenance and repairs and, of course, taxes. Together, these items absorb over 99 cents out of every sales dollar. About half of what is left is plowed back into the industry for improvements, leaving less than half of one cent for dividends to shareholders who risk their capital in the business.



### "DOC" BROWNELL'S CORNER

The way I look at it, it's a healthy position for livestock producers to have the processing half of their industry in a sound position and always working to broaden and improve the outlets for meat and other animal products. It would pay any producer to visit a packing plant to see the operations and

talk to the people in charge. Personally I am convinced that the packers do a big job on a small margin when you consider that they put up cash for the livestock, have heavy investments in plants and equipment and pay operating charges before they get the final returns on all the various products.

**MEAT PACKERS COUNCIL OF CANADA**  
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## North To a Cattle Kingdom

By C. FRANK STEELE

WILL and Jim Meeks, who founded one of the best known cattle ranches in the Milk River country, are now gone. Will died first, Jim followed years later. Like true westerners both died "with their boots on" and left a going ranch business for their descendants, who live in and around Raymond, where Ray Knight staged that first Alberta stampede in 1903 and ran the big Kirkaldy Ranch near the Meeks' spread. To the west, still in the rolling Hudson Bay Divide country, was the famed McIntyre Ranch with an expanse of range as big as a country. Here, indeed, was a "Cattle Kingdom".

That's what an old stockman told Will and Jim Meeks back at the turn of the century when they headed north from Utah to Canada and greener pastures. "That's a Cattle Kingdom, boys. Head north and grow up with the country," is what he said.

Then Will and Jim met W. H. McIntyre, Sr., in Salt Lake near the McIntyre Bank building—a stately Texan who once drove cattle over the old Chisholm Trail. Said the banker-rancher: "Haven't you heard of the hard winters in Canada and the cold rains that kill the cattle in the spring? I'm losing thousands of dollars in Canada every year. Now understand me, boys, I'm losing all this money by not having enough cattle to eat the grass going to waste up there. Yes, if I wanted to go into the cattle business and had an old cow with but three legs, I would ship her to Canada."

"That was enough," said Jim Meeks years later. "We left Salt Lake that night and in a few days we were in Canada arriving over the old narrow gauge railway from Great Falls."

They arrived in Stirling, August 28, 1902, and headed straight for Raymond to meet the Knights. The rich sugar magnate and mining genius, "Uncle" Jesse Knight was in Canada with his sons, Will and Ray, and they took the Meeks Brothers to the "K-2" ranch near Spring Coulee.

"Ray showed us his 1,000 head of Manitoba steers he had shipped in from Winnipeg and fattened on grass of which 400 were all ready to ship back there, with some going on to Toronto. He said he expected to get \$40 to \$45 a head for the steers, which we figured was a good price in those days," said Jim later. And he continued:

"Well, day after day we rode the range never tiring—seeing thousands of fat cattle and the abundance of grass that stood knee high to a saddle horse. Not a fence was seen after leaving the K-2 ranch and the McIntyre until we hit a line fence running south from Stirling over the Milk River Ridge down to Milk River and the Montana border.

### The Trip North

"So impressed were we with this 'Cattle Kingdom' and its possibilities that we rushed back home to Utah fully determined to ship our cattle that fall and move them to Canada. By the first of November we had selected from the Utah desert and mountain ranges about 500 head of our strongest cattle and headed north. Will wasn't able to make the trip at the time, so my brother Archie put on his red flannels and said he would try one winter in Canada."

And so it was that Meeks Brothers moved over the Utah Trail and north to Alberta. All went well until they reached Cut Bank, Mont. There the Great Northern Railway demanded \$1,200 in cash freight charges. They

wanted the money before the cattle could be unloaded and trailed across the line into Canada.

Then it was Jim Meeks took a chance quite typical of many taken by those early ranchers. He had no cash so he wrote a cheque for \$1,200 drawn on a Salt Lake Bank. It didn't work because Jim inadvertently made it out for \$12 instead of \$1,200 and nobody noticed it at the time. However, all's well that ends well. A new cheque was made out and in due time honored and the tough cattle drive of the Meeks' cattle started from Cut Bank. Said Jim in recalling the chore:

### Ray Knight, Cowboy!

"Our move from Cut Bank into Canada was anything but pleasant as we faced cold, shifting winds that kept the new snow on the move. The last night in Montana we met Ray Knight at the Emerson Ranch on his way to Cut Bank to meet three trainloads of steers from Utah. When Ray heaved in sight we were sure relieved—we had a friend in getting our outfit across the Blackfoot Indian Reserve.

"That night we discussed old times, when Ray was considered the best all-round cowboy on the round-up on Boulder Mountain in Southern Utah before he came to Canada. Ray laughed when I recalled the day he roped a four-year-old buck deer from the back of a half-broken horse for fun. He was always good with a rope as the Canadian cowboys, including those at the Calgary Stampede, were to learn later."

And so they reached the "promised land," as Jim Meeks called it. They spent Christmas eve at Magrath, then a little settlement on the bald prairie, but felt better Christmas Day when a warm Chinook blew in. New Year's Day found them riding herd on a bunch of thin, restless cattle from the Utah sand hills.

They arranged through the Knights a line of credit at the Bank of Montreal at Raymond, then just entering its first boom on the strength of the old Knight sugar factory venture. But their troubles were not over. One of those May snowstorms hit the country and stock losses were heavy. But they weathered the storm and founded their ranch. Better days came to Meeks Brothers, but their headaches were not over yet. Came 1919 and the winter that broke a lot of Alberta stockmen, Jim recalls that experience this way:

### They Owed the Bank

"On the first of October winter set in and the battle was on—to save a herd of cattle we had refused to sell because we figured they were worth more money. The winter held steady from October right through the month of May. Our own feed stocks were soon wiped out. Hay feed alone would not preserve their flesh. Grain had to be fed. We shipped in grain from northern Alberta, corn and meal cake from the States and hay from Manitoba. In spite of all this, losses piled up. So did our expenses until by June, 1920, Meeks Brothers ranches woke up owing the Bank of Montreal \$97,000, after starting with a clean slate the fall before."

Such were some of the experiences of Will and Jim Meeks in the "Cattle Kingdom" they had painted for them in Utah. But they never forgot the words of W. H. McIntyre, Sr., nor the encouragement of such great cattlemen as Walter Ross, Archie McLean, Ray Knight and "Billy" McIntyre, and after the clouds had lifted, better days came and they admitted they "never regretted making the move north."



# The Western Flying Squirrel

By KERRY WOOD

LAST night there was a loud thump on the verandah roof outside the bedroom window and we knew that our prowler was back again. He comes almost nightly, at any time from midnight until three or four o'clock in the morning. At rare intervals he visits our premises before bedtime; when that happens, we go outside to have another look at him. Our prowler is an attractive character with large and lovely eyes, grey-brown fur on head and back with clean white underparts, and he has a magnificent tail. He is one of those seldom seen but plentiful animals called a Flying Squirrel.

The verandah roof is his favorite landing field. It has been used by many generations of squirrels, both the reds by day and flying squirrels by night. Tall spruces grow to the north of the house, a few balsams to the south, and we are half way between two larger patches of evergreens where the squirrels have their dens. Hence we are on their travel route between the copses. By landing on the verandah roof, the animals can avoid going down to the ground where stray cats and dogs are a threat to their safety.

But our prowler has varied the travel pattern, as he always stops for a visit. After landing on the verandah roof, he swoops across to the balm trees to the south and scampers east on their branches until he is opposite the large Manitoba maple standing in the middle of the backyard. Another glide, and he reaches that tree. Then we hear him utter a soft and pleasing whistle, because this is the site of our bird-feeding station and the squirrel likes to sample the free fare.

He goes down the trunk and hops across to the pedestal feeder, where we put cracked grain, a few peanuts, bread crumbs and other table scraps. The prowler stays there a moment, hunched prettily on his back quarters while holding an item of food in his forepaws. After tasting the various items on the hand-out menu, the squirrel swoops back to the tree trunk and then glides across to one of the hanging boards on which suet lumps have been fastened. The speed of his landing makes the board sway violently; the prowler clings on and whistles a gentle protest until the swinging stops. Then he gnaws hungrily at the fatty food.

When he has had his fill, the squirrel swoops back to the maple trunk. Up the rough bark he climbs, going aloft to the slender branches where the winged seeds of the maple are abundant. There he scrounges his dessert. At last the prowler is content with his supper, then glides north or south to continue his travels.

## The Nocturnal Squirrels

Flying squirrels are plentiful in all parts of Western Canada where evergreens grow, yet few people see these animals because they are so strictly nocturnal. Visit a spruce or pine woodland on a moonlit night and stand close to a small clearing, staring upward. If squirrels are abroad, you'll see them swoop across the clearing — and a marvelous sight it is, too! They can easily glide a distance of fifty feet at a downward angle, while longer glides of seventy and even eighty feet are possible if they launch out from near the top of a tall tree. These squirrels have a slack skin development between front and back legs on each side which is tautened to form a planing surface, helped by the large, flattened tail.

At the end of a swoop, the animal swerves upward to make a four-paw landing against the rough bark of spruce or pine tree. Then up the trunk and away they glide again, ranging over many acres of forest during the course of an active night.

## Food Supplies Plentiful

Their food is plentiful and varied. Spruce and pine seeds, hidden within the leaves of cones, form the mainstay of the winter diet. They'll visit every nook and cranny of a promising tree, searching for frozen insect carcasses. Once I watched one plunder the paper palace of an old yellow-jacket nest, where the squirrel apparently found many prizes. Seedheads of flowers, shrivelled saskatoons and chokecherries, and red rose-hips all help to feed the night squirrels in winter.

Unhappily, they also investigate trappers' baits. Many a flying squirrel is caught in sets put out for marten and mink. One farmer who had a trapline on his backbush land came to me in great excitement, telling me he had trapped a pair of valuable chinchillas — "Aren't they worth about \$500 a-piece?" He had caught two flying squirrels, animals he had never seen before. The true chinchilla of South America belongs to the squirrel family, hence there is a certain resemblance.

The easiest way to see a flying squirrel is to visit a sprucewood in the daytime and carry along a short, stout stick. Whenever you spot a "woodpecker tree", an old poplar or balm stump riddled with woodpecker holes, rap the base loudly with your stick while looking aloft at the holes. Flying squirrels rarely build mossy drays like their red cousins; invariably they'll den up in a deserted woodpecker nest. And if you chance to rap the trunk of a den tree, the startled animal will pop out the hole and swoop across to the nearest tree. There it will sit a while, obviously confused by the bright daylight. Then you can have a good close look at a relative of our charming night-time prowler.

## Livestock Market Outlook

ABOUT 100,000 hogs a week are required to meet the domestic demand for pork products. Last November deliveries averaged 140,000 hogs a week.

Deliveries are likely to continue at a high level until next July which will keep prices down. The floor price is \$23 at Toronto down to \$18.50 at Calgary, dressed weight. If the market declines below those levels the government purchasing will go into effect.

U. S. hog prices have an effect on the Canadian situation, as some exports cross the line. The price in the U.S. has gone down as low as \$17½ dressed weight per cwt. An 11 per cent increase in marketing through to next September is anticipated in the U.S. There is lots of feed and the farmers are selling plenty through hogs.

Prices are not likely to rise until next July when deliveries drop below 100,000 hogs a week.

Cattle deliveries are running at 32,000 a week in Canada, which is about consumer beef requirements. The peak in cattle numbers looks as though it had been reached and the usual tendency has been for a decline in price. But demand keeps increasing and exports take only about 2 per cent. With increasing population and good times, the cattle raisers are in a favorable position.

"My Dad is an Elk, a Lion and a Moose."

"Gosh — how much does it cost to see him?"

DEPRESSION PRICES — We sell cheap — save 75% — new and used tractor parts — 150 makes and models — 1956 catalog ready — send 25c — refundable. SURPLUS TRACTOR PARTS CORPORATION, Fargo, North Dakota.

## Royal Bank Net Earnings Rise 13.6%

Assets increase over \$250,000,000, to reach record level of \$3,284,143,865 — Deposits pass \$3 billion mark to establish a new milestone for Canadian banking.

The Royal Bank of Canada closed its fiscal year on November 30, 1955, with a profit, after taxes and all other charges, of \$10,858,480, a 13.6% increase over the figure for the previous year. This represents earnings per share of \$2.58, as compared with \$2.28 in 1954.

The bank's profit and loss statement this year is being presented in slightly different form in that profits are shown after provision for depreciation and income taxes, which formerly were shown separately. It is also noted that the bank has set aside this year \$11,215,000 for income taxes.

Out of net profit regular dividends of \$6,604,422 were paid to shareholders plus an extra distribution at the rate of 20c per share amounting to \$840,000. The residual amount, together with the balance of undivided profits resulted in the sum of \$4,918,133 from which the bank transferred \$4,000,000 to the Rest Fund, leaving a balance of \$918,133. This is the 6th year in a row that the Royal Bank has transferred to the Rest Fund a portion of the current year's earnings. Capital and Rest Fund now stand at \$42,000,000 and \$108,000,000 respectively which, with undivided profits, bring the capital funds of the bank to \$150,918,133.

The bank's annual balance sheet just issued shows total assets for the year at \$3,284,143,865, a figure which exceeds the record total of a year ago by well over \$250,000,000.

The first Canadian bank to show deposits in excess of \$3 billion, the Royal attained under this heading a total of \$3,062,220,349 in 1955, an increase for the year of \$264,672,200.

Loans, exclusive of mortgage loans under NHA total \$1,243,629,362, exceeding the 1954 figure by more than \$55,000,000. Call loans are down by some \$81,000,000, reflecting reduced activity in the securities market. Other loans, including commercial loans in Canada, increased by \$137,214,338 to \$1,168,841,182, indicative of the degree to which the Royal Bank has participated in the marked industrial and commercial development throughout Canada during 1955.

A striking indication of the extent of this bank's participation in providing loans for new housing is the figure for "Mortgages and Hypothecs insured under NHA (1954)", which now stands at \$100,865,965. This is well over four times the figure of a year ago and represents 38% of mortgage loans on the books of all Canadian chartered banks.

Total quick assets of \$1,918,749,579 indicate the bank's strong liquid position. These quick assets, which include Dominion and Provincial Government securities totalling \$944,686,948 represent 61.23% of the bank's liabilities to the public.

The Annual General Meeting of Shareholders of the bank will be held at the Head Office on Thursday, January 12th at 11 A.M.



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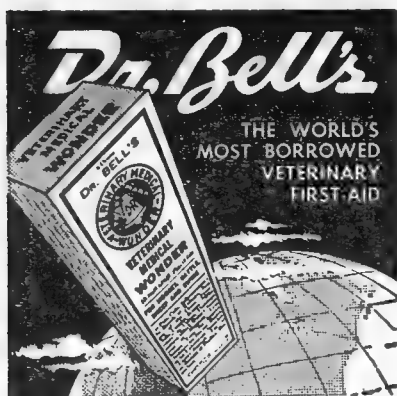
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## The Adventure In Marketing Surplus Horses

By GRANT MACEWAN

AFTER completing the huge task of removing nearly a quarter of a million surplus horses from the farms and ranches of Mid-Western Canada and converting them into 19 million dollars worth of products for the markets of many countries, the Co-Operative Processors Ltd., better known as the Co-Operative Horse Marketing Association, is preparing to wind up its affairs. In recent weeks, some 37,500 shareholders in Saskatchewan and Alberta have been invited to the district meetings expected to be the last.

The winding up of that organization, with headquarters at Swift Current, marks the end of a bold adventure in co-operative marketing and a colorful chapter in the history of changing agriculture. It is a story of courage and resourcefulness being rewarded by success. When the Co-Op. was organized in 1944 for the purpose of finding markets for thousands of unwanted horses, no association assets existed—nothing but a job calling for bold action—but on October 15, 1955, after achieving the purpose for which it was formed, the current assets were half a million dollars, from which certain distribution will be made to shareholders. Such a sizeable sum inspired Dr. L. B. Thomson, who was one of the moving spirits throughout the life of the movement, to recall the financial struggles of a mere eleven years earlier when the newly-formed association had trouble enough to raise even a modest loan through the usual lending channels. The initial working capital was a loan of \$50,000 backed by the Province of Saskatchewan. But, as Dr. Thomson mentions, after buying the Red Top Plant at Edmonton and getting ready to take it over, there was the embarrassment of having no money with which to make payment. After surviving one financial crisis after another, the growing volume of business and the overseas contracts placed the "Horse Co-Op" in a position where it could enjoy the favors of any loaning institution.

### The Original Purpose

But when the Co-Op was organized in 1944, the idea of building a big business enterprise and paying cash dividends was quite secondary in the minds of the founders; the motivating purpose was to find or furnish an outlet for many of the surplus horses which had become a burden on farms and ranches in an area which was rapidly swinging toward mechanization. It started years before when tractor power began to gain popularity. Every year saw more un-used horses and in the droughty '30's when feed was scarce, the futility and costliness of carrying surplus animals became very plain. When Hon. J. G. Taggart, then Minister of Agriculture for Saskatchewan, attended one of the first meetings, he reminded the stockmen that it had been necessary to ship 500,000 tons of feed into the province in 1937 and 1938. The lesson was quite clear. With fewer horses, farmers and stockmen could keep more cattle and beef prices were rising. In the years of World War II beef and other meats were wanted in greater volume than ever for both the domestic and United Kingdom markets and farmers and ranchers became increasingly anxious to move the horses they no longer harnessed. Many of those horses were getting old and only an insignificant number could be taken by the operators of fox-ranches and usually at a price of five or ten dollars a head.

There had been attempts for years

to find overseas markets for Canadian horses but never with much success. Early in the years of World War II, France was going to take 6,000 head and horsemen took some hope; but only a third of that number was ever shipped and the problem across the farming and ranching country was unchanged. A few western horses were being shipped to eastern provinces and a few crossed the border to United States, but such shipments were of little account compared with the estimated third of a million or more surplus as estimated on farms and ranches in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

### Need for Meat

In 1943, horse owners were speculating about a double purpose in processing surplus horse stock; in the first place the sale of surplus animals would leave more grass and winter feed for cattle and sheep, and in the second, perhaps some of the available horse meat would fill an urgent need for human food, especially in war-torn Europe where malnutrition was said to be serious and where people were accustomed to eating horse meat. In November of that year, as war-time demand for meats and leather and glue and other animal products was at a peak, the Department of Animal Husbandry at the University of Saskatchewan conducted some cutting tests on horse carcasses and not only provided some data about horse meat yields and values but led some unsuspecting local consumers to say: "That's excellent beef but it does seem a little unusual in flavor."

Stockmen were coming to the viewpoint that they should do something for themselves in the matter of marketing their horses. A meeting was held at Val Marie, in Southern Saskatchewan, on March 1, 1944, and the 300 farmers and ranchers attending were seen as an indication of the demand for action in some form. All present agreed with the suggestion to organize co-operatively and examine all the possibilities for the sale of horses. In the following weeks, local meetings were held elsewhere, with L. B. Thomson, Superintendent of the Swift Current Experimental Farm acting as chairman at each. Late in that same month a general meeting was held at Swift Current and a provisional board was set up. George Newton, of Val Marie, was elected provisional chairman and L. B. Thomson, secretary. Mr. Thomson was asked to go at once to the United States to study the markets there. That he did and in his report, he proposed a "horse killing plant at a central point." That European countries would need and want meat foods in all available forms was not being overlooked but still there would be a lot of gamble about the proposal to start a co-operative plant. Organization was progressing but the association was still struggling. At a meeting in December of 1944, it was reported that the big ideas were backed by a cash balance of exactly \$63.93. But there was vigor even though there wasn't much cash and before the end of the year the provisional board was invited by the Saskatchewan Government to come to Regina; there the Government offered to back a loan of \$50,000 for the purpose of starting a plant in which to pickle horse meat.

### Launching the Plan

In May of 1945, with the aid of the Federal Government, a contract was signed to deliver 10,000 tons of pickled horse meat to Belgium, starting in September. At once the "Horse Co-op" bought the old power plant at

Swift Current and began to rebuild for processing. The next step was to buy the Red Top plant at Edmonton. One of the horsemen said: "We're going to succeed or go broke trying." An annual meeting was called for June 9, 1945, and L. B. Thomson became president and S. F. Shields, secretary and organizer.

At war's end it became clear that European countries wanted canned meat. A canning plant would be costly and the Co-op had nothing but borrowed capital and not enough of that. But one way or another, the money was obtained. The Belgium Economic Mission advanced \$150,000 on meat to be delivered later. The Saskatchewan Government increased its guarantee to the same amount and later when U.N.R.R.A. contracted to take the entire 1946 output, there was another advance of \$200,000.

The Swift Current plant began to operate on October 19, 1945. The risks were great and nobody doubted it, but by the beginning of 1946, the Co-Op was appearing as a robust and expanding thing. Horses were available in abundance and meat and meat products were wanted urgently. Producers were pleased; they were subscribing to a one-dollar share in the association for each horse delivered and there was a three-dollar deduction from proceeds of each horse to provide working capital and equipment. By the end of 1947, over a hundred thousand horses were processed in the plants at Edmonton and Swift Current and producers had been paid about three million dollars in cash.

But it wasn't all clear sailing. The year 1948 witnessed reverses; the U.N.R.R.A. contract was cancelled because of the operation of the Marshall Plan and at the end of the year the Co-Op had over 400,000 pounds of canned meat on hand and no visible market. 1948 and 1949 were years of loss, and 1950 and 1951 were difficult. The overseas demand had changed completely, but it's not to be overlooked that a measurable demand for horse meat appeared in Canada. Most native-born Canadians wanted no part in eating horse meat but nevertheless there was sufficient interest that some horse meat stores were opened in Canadian cities. But their lives were short. Of 33 shops licensed to sell horse meat in Winnipeg and west of there in 1951, most were still operating in 1952, but only three were licensed in 1953.

Anyway, when the big export market disappeared, the two Co-Op plants were offered for sale. They were leased for three years and on June 30, 1955, when the lease expired, the leasing company bought the two plants.

Now, the "Horse Co-Op" has come to the end of the trail. There were reverses as well as successes but the record makes it clear that it accomplished what it set out to do for the changing agriculture of Western Canada. It relieved the pastures and ranges of the Mid-West of a lot of low grade, aged and surplus horse stock and to many parts of the world, even the Belgium Congo, went meat products to the value of 19 million dollars. In addition to the millions paid to western producers, there were the three and a half millions paid in wages and nearly four millions paid for rail freight. It was big business and it was a tribute to western stockmen as well as being a splendid adventure in agricultural co-operation.

*The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,  
A line of cars winds slowly o'er the lea,  
A pedestrian plods his absent-minded way,  
and leaves the world quite unexpectedly.*



## Livestock Notes

Dr. Carlo Guerro, an outstanding cattle judge from Argentina, has been secured to judge the Aberdeen-Angus and Shorthorn cattle at the Calgary spring show. Dr. Guerro has judged at cattle shows all over the world. The Angus and Shorthorn people think that a visit by the judge to the Calgary show might encourage exportations of pure-bred beef cattle to the big South America republic.

The Angus breeders are also planning a grand opening of the new livestock pavilion when the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede is held next summer. The suggestion is to plan the event somewhat after the Saskatoon and Regina jubilee shows and sales held last summer, and to provide fine trophies which will be given outright to the winners.

The Hereford Association would like to see a National Hereford Congress organized. This would bring breeders from all over Canada together to discuss improvement of the breed and matters of mutual interest. The association decided on Brian D'Chance, of the Douglas Lake Cattle Co., as judge at the Calgary show and Vern Ellison, of Oyama, B.C., judge at Edmonton.

Alberta sheep are remarkably free of diseases of any kind. So reported Dr. L. R. Saint, Dominion veterinarian, to the December meeting of the Sheep Breeders' Association. This should clear up rumors that have been going the rounds.

The sheepmen were told that Selective 1080 is the best poison to use for coyotes. A little of it kills a coyote and other critters, except dogs, are pretty well immune.

Alberta Livestock Commissioner Meade states that after January 1, of this year, livestock offered at community auction sales will have to be inspected for disease by a veterinary.

Alberta hogs have declined in quality since 1941. The main drop is in A grade animals. That is what Alberta's Livestock Commissioner Bill Meade told a meeting of the Swine Breeders' Association. The cause thereof is difficult to ascertain. Mr. Meade says it is in boar selection and the Alberta government is offering assistance in the purchase of high-class boars with grants of from \$5 to \$10. Some say there are not enough good boars to supply the demand and others maintain that commercial hog producers do not display the interest they should in obtaining good boars.

The Canadian Wool Grower says that the most satisfactory outlets for Canadian wool have been confined to home and United Kingdom buyers and there is the possibility that this situation might continue for two or three years. The United States government is holding 150 million lbs. of domestic wool which it plans to market at the rate of 5,000,000 lbs. a month. There is little chance of selling much Canadian wool there.

The annual convention of the Saskatchewan Livestock Association will be held January 17 to 20 in the Saskatchewan hotel, Regina. The program will consist of talks by specialists in livestock and others who will deal with all aspects of the livestock industry from feeding to marketing.

When the final figures are out Canadian farm income in 1955 will be \$300 millions more than in 1954 and about the same as in 1953. So says Rt. Hon. J. G. Gardiner, minister of agriculture.

# MIRACLE BILL



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HOW IN HECK DID THEY DO IT?

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I'M LOSING A LOT OF CHICKS DURING THE FIRST SIX WEEKS, BILL, BUT I GUESS IT HAS TO BE THAT WAY.

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2 DAYS LATER

DOING BETTER WITH YOUR CHICKS NOW, MILT?

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Today successful dairy farmers realize the importance of properly balanced dairy feeds in building up a profitable milking herd. Grain and good green grass in season are essential, but alone do not provide the nutritional balance required for high milk production.

"Miracle" Feeds are designed to maintain a consistent milk flow at a high level of production. They're carefully analyzed, checked for quality, balanced for food value. Yet they're economical. So don't delay. Start boosting milk profits today ... with MIRACLE Dairy Feeds.

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The Vegetable Growers' Association of Manitoba will hold the third annual convention in Winnipeg, January 24 to 26. W. E. Krocker is president and F. J. Weir is secretary.

OUR NEW TWEDDLE SERIES 400, 401 and 402 will lay more eggs on less feed, will lay longer with less hen-house mortality than any other breeds we have to offer. Put in at least part of your flock of these sensational layers this year, and compare them if you will with any of the high-priced in-bred hybrids, we know you will be back in 1957 for Tweddle New Series 400, 401, and 402. Also broiler chicks, Turkey Poults, laying and ready-to-lay pullets. Catalogue.

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Every calf is born Vitamin A deficient. Calvita supplies the full amounts of Vitamins A & D, and Niacin required by a calf during the dangerous first three weeks of life to prevent nutritional scours and deficiency diseases. Don't lose a single calf this season—Administer Calvita Calf Savers to all this year's crop.

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When White calf scours strike, use Rids, the original streptomycin product formulated to stop scours before serious losses result. Keep a package on hand—they may save you a valuable calf this year.

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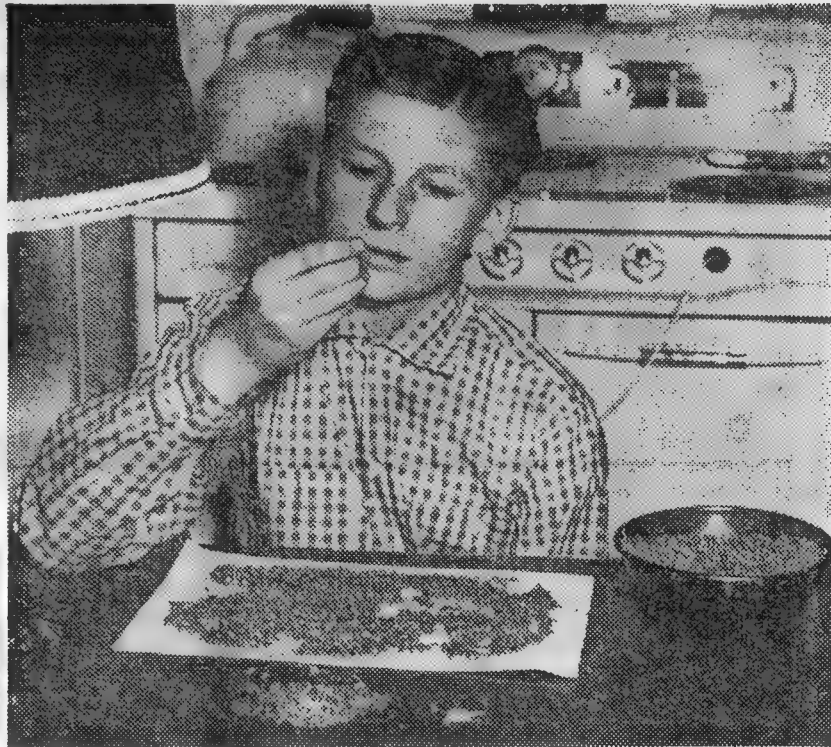
Pigs are born iron deficient which if not corrected results in anemia, scours and hairless pigs. Supply this important factor plus essential copper and Vitamin B Complex vitamins the EZE liquid-spray way. Use Iron-Eze weekly—it will help the entire litter on less feed. Costs only 1¢ per pig per week until weaned.

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V67

## Schoolboy Is World Wheat Champion



Dave Colville Photo.

Jerry John Leiske, 13-year-old farm boy from Beiseker, Alberta, is new world wheat champion.

A 15-POUND exhibit of Chinook wheat produced by 13-year-old Jerry John Leiske, of Beiseker, Alberta, won first prize at the Chicago International exhibition. This achievement entitled the 8th grade schoolboy to the world's wheat championship crown.

Jerry John is a vivacious lad with many interests. He is a good singer, accomplished at the piano and plays the slide trombone in the local band. At one of the receptions given him after his winning the coveted championship he entertained the gathering with his singing. His main interest, however, is farming and he intends making it his life's work.

The Leiske family came to the Beiseker district from North Dakota in 1908. That district is an excellent farming area and the father, John Leiske, has made good. The son grew

his prize-winning wheat on land which was broken 41 years ago.

Jerry John is the youngest winner of the world's wheat championship and he plans on continuing to exhibit at the leading exhibitions. He attends the Carbon school, 40 miles from his home, requiring an 80-mile round trip every school day.

The sample of Chinook wheat exhibited at Chicago weighed 68 lbs. to the bushel, the heaviest wheat ever exhibited at that exhibition.

It was just by chance that young Leiske's exhibit of wheat got to Chicago. By some fluke the sample was judged 18th at the Toronto Royal. But it had been judged first at Drumheller by Art Wilson, Alberta's field crop commissioner, and L. B. Goodall, in charge of the government seed branch in Calgary, and these men are outstanding judges of grain. So Mr. Wilson decided to take the sample on to Chicago, along with those who came at the top.

It isn't often that there has been such a slip-up. Jerry's sister, Marjorie, who exhibited wheat samples at both the Royal in Toronto and at Chicago for six years (coming in 3, 4, 6, 6, 7 and 8 in various such years) found the judging at Toronto and Chicago identical. This young lady is now a nurse-in-training at a California university.

The young champion is a member of the Carbon 4-H club, 1955 being his first year. But he had profited by the experience of his sister and his father. The latter was in charge of the Level Land Club for years when it won the provincial championship.

### WORLD CORN PRODUCTION

World corn production is estimated by the United States Department of Agriculture at 6,060,000,000 — an all-time record.

U. S. Production is placed at 3,118,000,000 bushels, up from 2,965,000,000 last year. Total U.S. supplies is placed at the huge figure of 4,142,000,000 bushels.

Canadian production is placed at 29,300,000, highest on record.

The European harvest is placed at 670,000,000 bushels.

Russia has increased acreage under corn to 44,000,000, four times the 1954 corn acreage. More forage grain is needed there to increase livestock production.

## U. of S. Short Courses

THE University of Saskatchewan, extensions services, has arranged for a course on gasoline and diesel engines from January 10 to February 4, a welding and blacksmithing course from February 6 to 18th, and a farm buildings course from February 20 to 24.

A list of homes providing board and room will be available when students register. The cost of board and room varies, but will be about \$55.00 per month.

Books and laboratory manual for the Motors Courses can be secured at the University after enrolment at a cost of about \$4.50. Equipment necessary is a pair of overalls and a small padlock. Students may bring skates.

All applicants should register at Room 129, Extension Services, School of Agriculture, Building, University, on the afternoon before, or on the morning of the first day of the course desired, when fees are due and payable. Further information may be secured from L. C. Paul, Extension Services, University of Saskatchewan.

## 4-H Leader's Workshop

THIRTY leaders and their assistants from twelve 4H club communities took part in a 4H Leadership Workshop held in the Delisle Lodge Rooms. It was sponsored by Ag. Rep. District 23 4H Council; Bob Brack, Extension Department; Jake Fehr, Federated Co-op; and Jack Braidek, local Ag. Rep. conducted the workshop.

A discussion of the 4H leaders' problems featured in the all-day session. The morning was devoted to listing the problems encountered "back home". These were examined by the members in the afternoon and suggestions were provided as solutions. The exchange of ideas provided many useful answers to the many difficulties experienced. Together with the suggestions offered by the resource personnel the leaders felt they had gained much from the occasion.

Mr. Fehr speaking on the subject, "Parliamentary Procedure and Successful Meetings," stressed the need for thoroughness in meetings. Prepare an agenda and don't leave out any of it was his advice to chairmen. He cited examples of chairmen omitting important items such as treasurer or committee examples and the consequences. "Set up a procedure and follow it through at regular meetings, plan carefully for special meetings and at all times have the secretary keep a careful record of proceedings," said the speaker.

The club leaders, many of them inexperienced in 4H work found that parent and community support was one of their major problems. To overcome this it was suggested that parents be invited to take part in special competitions at the club achievement day. Informing the community of the club program, holding a parent night, touring the district farms and inviting folks in to the meetings and special events were other suggestions.

The average association with 4H clubs by those attending the workshop was 2.8 years. They represented clubs from the Arelee, Asquith, Kinley, Vanscoy, Delisle, Swanson, Bratton, Macrorie, Dinsmore, Mildred and Zealandia districts.

Nancy Turner, of Champaign, Ill., a 16-year-old member of a 4-H club, showed the steer that won the grand championship at the Chicago International Show. The steer sold at auction for \$15 a lb., a total of \$14,700 for Nancy.

**AT HOME**

and

**ABROAD**

CANADIAN HOLSTEINS  
ARE IN DEMAND

IN 11 MONTHS OF 1955

Exports increased 25 per cent.

Total Sales gained 7 per cent.

\$15,000 was paid for a bull calf.

\$2,141 was the Sale of Stars  
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BRANTFORD ONTARIO



## — FARM NOTES —

Sows farrow 112 to 115 days after breeding.

Australia brought in a million immigrants between 1947 and 1955, and now has a population of about 9,200,000.

Loss in yield due to trashy-surfaced seedbeds may be overcome by adequate use of nitrogen fertilizers, soils specialists say.

Grass waterways to carry off excess moisture without soil washing more than pay their way in added farm income.

Strong disinfectants should not be used on open wounds of livestock be-

cause they may aggravate the condition or delay healing.

Sweet clover seed production in 1955 is placed at 14,000,000 cleaned, for all of Canada. The carryover is reported at 2,095,000 lbs.

Canada's 1955 production of alfalfa is estimated at 3,480,000 lbs. cleaned, which is about one third of the ten year average of 10,438,000 lbs.

Australian wheat growers are guaranteed an export price of \$1.40 a bushel for a minimum of 100,000,000 bushels, and a domestic price of \$1.54 a bushel.

The Danes export butter in casks containing 56 and 112 lbs., these being made of beechwood and lined with aluminum foil to which is at-

tached red parchment, which gives protection from light and air.

British trade delegates, recently visiting Canada on a trade mission, said if the U.K. could increase exports to Canada by 8 per cent the trade between the two countries would be balanced.

A Dutch vaccine to combat foot-and-mouth disease of animals has given extremely satisfactory results. This conclusion was reached at an international conference of veterinary surgeons held in Amsterdam.

The University of Alberta is conducting experiments in methods for killing wild oats. Some progress has been made but just enough to encourage researchers. A new chemical known as CDAA gave a good kill

of wild oats on plots and farms in the Edmonton district this past year, and was less harmful to cereal crops than some of the other chemicals tried out. CDAA is not on the market as yet nor will it be until further trials prove it a success.

## RUPTURE-EASER

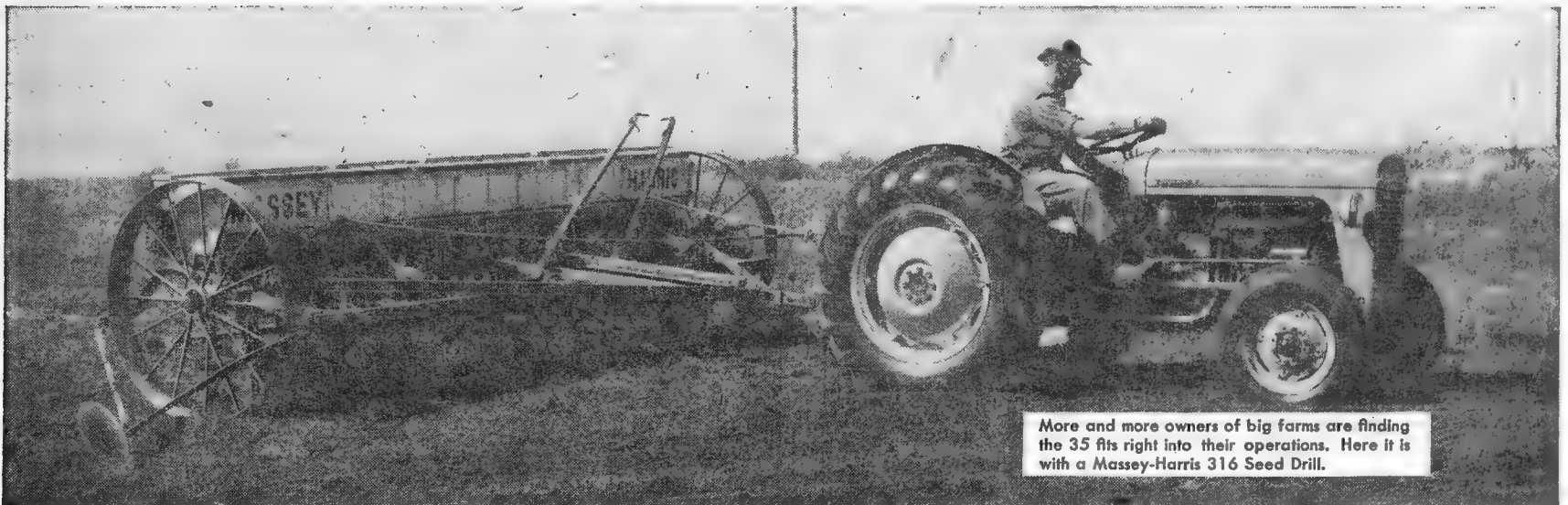
T.M. Reg. U.S. Pat. Off. (A Piper Brace Truss)



A strong, form-fitting washable support. Back lacing adjustable. Straps up in front. Adjustable leg strap. Soft, flat groin pad. No steel or leather bands. Unexcelled for comfort. Also used as after operation support. For men, women, children. Mail orders give measure around lowest part of abdomen and state right or left side or double. We prepay postage except on C.O.D.'s.

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# Now is the best time to buy a FERGUSON 35



More and more owners of big farms are finding the 35 fits right into their operations. Here it is with a Massey-Harris 316 Seed Drill.

The first new Ferguson 35's began rolling off the assembly lines only a few months ago. Already they've brought us a large flock of new customers who tell us this is the greatest Ferguson ever built.

We think we can make them fast enough to handle this year's orders promptly. But to be on the safe side—to make sure you get delivery in time for spring seeding—

better order your new Ferguson 35 today!

Once you've tried it, you'll see why owners are so enthusiastic. Heavier and far more efficient in implement control, the Ferguson 35 means greater returns for every hour you spend in the field. Ask your Ferguson dealer about all its advantages. Then let the new Ferguson 35 prove them, one by one.

### 4-Way Work Control Selects the Right Power for the Job!

**1. New Hydraulic System with Quadramatic Control for Lift control, double-acting Draft control, Response control and Position control.** Guarantees far greater accuracy for plowing, discing, cultivating.

**2. Dual-Range Transmission provides six forward speeds, two reverse; fits tractor speed exactly to the work.** Low range for harvesting, plowing, sub-soiling. High range (up to 14 mph) for light jobs or highway travel.

**3. 2-Stage Clutching controls tractor movement and live PTO with a single foot pedal.** Pressing pedal half way down (you can feel when you're there) disengages transmission. All the way down stops both tractor and PTO.

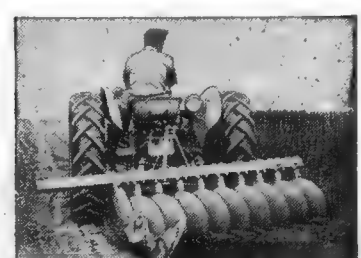
**4. Variable Drive PTO provides drives in ratio to tractor ground speed, or to tractor engine speed.** Synchronize with engine for harvesting, with ground speed for jobs like raking.



Here's the great new Ferguson 35 teamed with a spike tooth drag harrow. 4-Way Work Control lets owners farm more, work less.



Cultivating becomes a real precision job because 4-way work control lets you maintain the exact depth you need.



Flexitiller has individually mounted blades. Change their number or position you have a tiller, a disc or a plow.

# Massey-Harris-Ferguson

TORONTO, CANADA LIMITED



The Canadian government, as at December, had 85 million pounds of butter in storage, the largest yet recorded.

For an outlay of \$10,000,000 for chemicals there has been a saving of 53,000,000 bushels of grain valued at \$56,000,000, in the prairie provinces. That statement was made by Dr. H. E. Wood, chairman of the Manitoba Weed Commission.

## Science Shrinks Piles New Way Without Surgery

**Finds Healing Substance That Does Both—  
Relieves Pain—Shrinks Hemorrhoids**

**Toronto, Ont. (Special)**—For the first time science has found a new healing substance with the astonishing ability to shrink hemorrhoids and to relieve pain. Thousands have been relieved—without resort to surgery.

In case after case, while gently relieving pain, actual reduction (shrinkage) took place.

Most amazing of all—results were so thorough that sufferers made astonishing statements like "Piles have ceased to be a problem!"

The secret is a new healing substance, (Bio-Dyne\*)—discovery of a famous scientific institute.

Now you can get this new healing substance in suppository or ointment form called *Preparation H*®. Ask for it at all drug stores. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.

\*Trade Mark Reg.

Tests in 1955 on brome alfalfa mixtures of the black soil zone of central Alberta show ammonia phosphate 16-20-0 as the preferred fertilizer on the sandy loam soils. For the same crop on heavier loams 14-48-0 gives best results. Agronomist D. R. Walker conducted the tests at the La-combe Experimental Farm.



# Hair OFF Face

Lips...Arms...Legs

**Now Happy!** After trying many things, I developed a simple, inexpensive method to remove unsightly hair. Its regular use helps thousands retain admiration, love, happiness. My **FREE** book explains wonderful method, proves actual success. Mailed in plain envelope. Also **TRIAL OFFER**. Write ANNETTE LANZETTE, P.O. Box 600, Dept. C-922 Toronto, Ontario.

## The Steam Tractor Was a Menace

By F. A. TWILLEY,  
Swan River, Man.

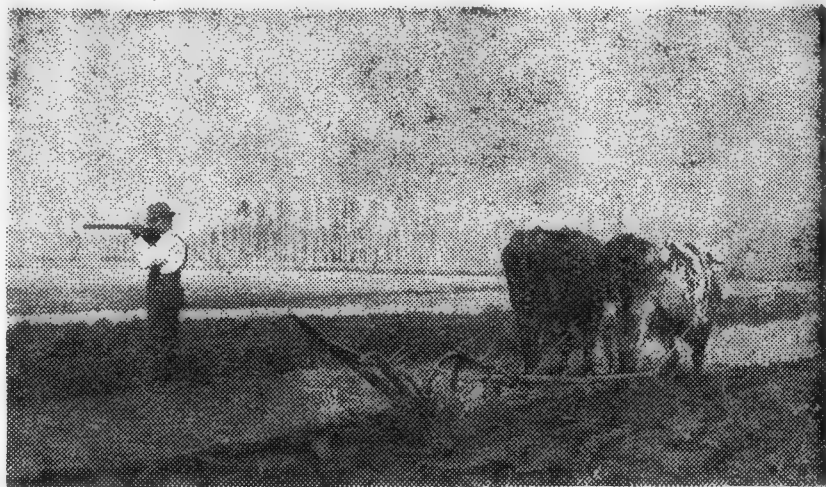
IT grieves me to say it and it will cause many to lift their eyebrows in astonishment, but the fact is I do not and never have liked the old steamers. I know that recently there has been two large gatherings of farmers, old and young, one meeting taking place in Saskatchewan and another at Austin, Manitoba, at which old threshermen went around half dizzy looking at and messing with, old steam tractors, but I was not one of them. I would not cross the street to look at a steam tractor.

I will go further. If I had an old steam engine setting in the fence corner and I also had a bulldozer, I would take the bulldozer and dig a hole with it deep enough to bury the steamer. I would then push the tractor into the hole and cover it up, all except the smoke stack. I would leave that sticking up so that these lovers of the old steam engine could put flowers in it if they wished to.

Nor did the farmer hiring him make any money. He was always glad to see him come into the yard, but much more so to see him get out. Not only did he lose half his stock of winter wood to keep the fire up in normal years, and all of it in wet seasons, but, if he wasn't around, a lot of his wheat and oat sheaves would go into the fire-box too, especially in the early frosty mornings just as the sun came up.

If the runners of the granary reached out more than an inch or two, the engineer would never fail to smash them off as he "got set" in one minute and twenty seconds. If he took another ten seconds to get set he would be able to look back and see where he was going.

When I brought in my first crop and neatly stacked it in four stacks, a spark from the engine set fire to the lot just after we had got nicely started and my entire year's work, laboriously and painfully carried out with oxen, went up in smoke. The thresh-



Scaring of power machinery agents.

I took a dislike to these things from the very first, ever since I was pushed into the fire-box of one in order to replace a plug that had melted out. I was the smallest fellow on the outfit. My ambition as a lad was to be a jockey, but I wasn't big enough. They had so much trouble pushing me in that I was scared that they would never fish me out again. It was hot in there too as the fire had only shortly been removed. They did get me out, however, and gave me fifteen cents. I vowed I wouldn't do it again, not for less than seventy-five cents.

Every time I would come in from the field with a load of sheaves the safety valve would hold its pressure until I came along with my horses and then would let out a mighty pent-up blast that would send my team off on a run and make them hard to hold with my ninety pounds of humanity at one end of the lines.

Later on, working on an outfit to pick up a few dollars, I would find that both the separator and the engine would be stuck in the mud half the time and that we did not get paid for working half the night getting them out. A smaller outfit, portable engine, would have been much more serviceable.

Did anybody ever hear of a thresherman owning a steam outfit making any money? They would go in the hole threshing and then have to take the engine to the bush sawing logs in order to try and make up, and generally end up being worse off than they were before. If any old-timer ever made any money with such an outfit, he should be in the museum along with his engine for he would be such a rarity. More often than not, the owner lost his farm.

erman, said that I should have put the stacks in pairs only. Quite so, and also the smoke stack should have had a screen in place to prevent such a calamity.

How many culverts did those juggernauts smash up in the early days? It will never be known. The bureau of statistics never tried to find out, not having the staff of present proportions.

I took this picture of a homesteader many years ago. I did not ask him what he was shooting at. I can only surmise but I know that he was being bothered by a machine agent trying to sell him a threshing machine. He can probably see him coming again and he wants to get on with his plowing. A few shots over his head will likely drive him away, but it is a risky thing to do. He might just happen to shoot too low and kill the fellow. That would be a very bad thing indeed and although he could convince the jury (hard to do) that it was an accident, he would still likely get five years for it. After all, those machine agents that went around selling steam threshing outfits to farmers in the early days were human beings and could not be shot like, say, a coyote or moose.

Well, they have had their day and have gone out of use now. If any body wants to go and look at what is left of them in the museums, it is all right with me. A museum is the place for them. They can't do any more harm and cause any more suffering and pain or cause women to leave their husbands. May this be said of them: they were weighed in the balance, and they weighed too much.



Only deeds give  
strength to life,  
only moderation  
gives it charm.

Jean Paul Richter

The House



of Seagram

Men who think of tomorrow practice moderation today



## Gold Hunters Brought Alberta's First Boom

By C. H. STOUT

THEY called it the "Back Door Route" in 1890 and before a year had passed hundreds of weary, worn and broken men had come back over Edmonton's threshold from the wild and forbidding northland after failing to reach the golden riches of the Klondike.

This dramatic story of 57 years ago has often been touched upon by Alberta historians but its real human interest elements may never be told. Discovery of gold in the Yukon late in 1896 proved to be one of the biggest things that ever happened to Edmonton and in a lesser extent to Calgary in the frontier days, though none of the fabulous gold actually reached Alberta. The prospect of finding an easier and less costly overland route to the Klondike lured a stream of adventurers here from all parts of the Americas and western Europe when the gold frenzy was at its peak. The obstacles and hardships of the Chilcoot Pass had become widely known and feared, and gold hunters hoped by coming through Alberta and Edmonton to avoid the long sea voyage to Alaskan ports, and thereafter the terrors of the mountainous trek to the Yukon diggings.

Gold hunters flocked into Calgary and thence to Edmonton by thousands, full of high hopes and care-free enthusiasm, not reckoning with the rigors of the vast north country, the intense cold, impassable mountain peaks and canyons, treacherous rivers, bottomless muskegs, mosquitoes and other pests, and above all the absence of food for man and beast over long stretches of the route.

One widely advertised Canadian way was by river steamers along the Athabasca, through Great Slave Lake and down the mighty MacKenzie. But when the river steamers with their comparative ease and luxury were left, there still remained the terrors of the wild Porcupine Pass and rough overland, and despite the heavy expense of such a trip not many managed to reach the Klondike by this short-summer water route.

### The Overland Route

More alluring was the map road from Edmonton, then end of steel from the south, through St. Albert, Fort Assiniboine, Swan Hills, Grouard, Peace River Landing and on northwest to the Liard and Francis rivers until the Pelly was reached, a distance of about 950 miles from Edmonton. Thence it was possible to descend the Pelly and Yukon rivers to Dawson City, capital of the gold country. Nowadays the Alaska Highway follows in part the trails of the gold hunters which in '98 and '99 were littered with the bones of many men, hundreds of horses and of the wrecks of untold numbers of sleds and remains of camping supplies and travelling equipment.

Needless to say the high-spirited adventurers spent their money lavishly outfitting for the trip, first at Calgary and then at Edmonton. The Edmonton Bulletin said of the times that from twenty to thirty parties of gold seekers were arriving on every tri-weekly train from the south, that the "woods were full of people" and that strings of loaded flat sleds were filling the town's streets as they pulled out for the north. Where the Bank of Commerce building now stands at the corner of 101st Street and Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, the firm of McDougall and Secord cut a corral out of the heavy bush and sold hundreds of Indian cayuses and oth-

er horses to prospectors for the 2,000 mile expedition.

No outfit was advised to start with less than ten horses and probably nine out of ten died on the trip from overwork, exposure and lack of feed, and it took a lot to kill an Indian cayuse and the bronchos from southern Alberta in those days. Some ingenious gold hunters sought to avoid the use of horses on the hazardous journey. One group of Americans brought machinery and rigged up a train, complete with steam engine, and cars to run on sleds. Most of Edmonton turned out to hear the so-called conductor cry "all aboard" as the engine whistled one wintry morning and the loaded train was all ready to start. Unfortunately the engine moved less than three feet in the direction of far off goldfields and the outfit was later sold to old-timer Kenny McLeod. The gold seekers eventually set out with horse drawn flat sleds.

### A Year's Journey

Another group from England called the "O'Brien party" not only brought their own horses from overseas but had their baled hay shipped all the way from the Old Country, with wild hay growing shoulder high in many Edmonton streets. A party from Hamilton, Ontario, devised a combination boat and sleigh pulled by horses, the contraption only requiring to be turned upside down to float down the rivers. They hadn't counted on the rivers being frozen. One man built a huge barrel equipped with shafts for horse power, and he vainly hoped to roll this overland with supplies inside.

On the other hand Alberta merchants in general and Edmonton stores in particular were ready with all kinds of supplies and equipment from knives and fish hooks to flat sleds and jumpers, to outfit all the parties that set out for the north. And in spite of untold hardships, sufferings and losses some of the parties headed by Albertans did manage to get through by the overland trails, though it took some of the most experienced and determined frontiersmen a year to reach the Yukon instead of the few weeks they had expected.

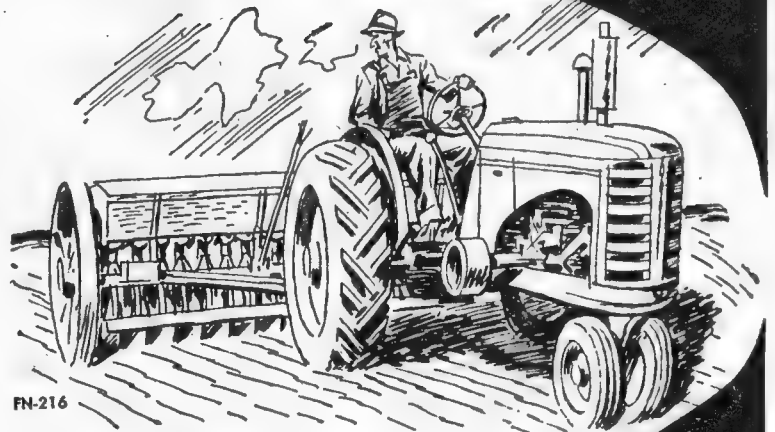
These "successful" men landed in the Klondike with little more than the ragged clothes they wore, their twenty to thirty horses, tons of supplies and equipment with which they left Edmonton strung along mountain slopes and in the woods of the Trail of '98. Canada's Back Door Route to the Yukon gave central Alberta and Edmonton the first real boom and started it on the way to prosperity, but it broke hundreds of gold hunters who brought in the comparative good times. When motorists complain now of the hardships of the Alaska highway, they might remember for a moment that band of foolhardy perhaps, but truly gallant men who blazed the way into the far northwest 57 years ago.

Because of geography, climate and market proximity, Manitoba farmers are in a better position to diversify farm operations than farmers in many other areas of western Canada, states L. B. Siemens, Special Crops Agronomist in the Soils and Crops Branch, Department of Agriculture and Immigration. A list of special crops that are adapted to most of Manitoba's agricultural areas and are readily marketable is available from the Soils and Crops Branch, Manitoba Department of Agriculture, Legislative Building, Winnipeg.

The Department of Agriculture, Regina, Sask., will mail a copy of the Saskatchewan Farmers Union for new booklet "Farm Water Systems and Sewage," without charge to any farmer writing in to that department. There was a decline in income by the year ending Sept. 30, 1955, of \$108,000, as compared with the income for the previous year.

## PLAN NOW...

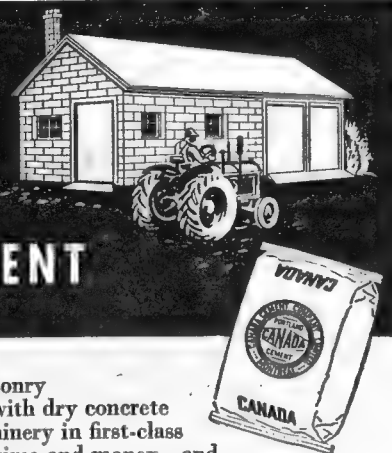
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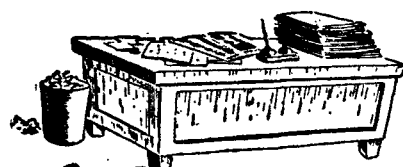
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## The Editor's Desk Happy New Year!

It's nice that we all can say that cheery greeting once a year.

Because he said it so well, and because he said it for all humanity, we turn once again to those lines written by the poet Alfred Tennyson, well over a century ago, to express the heart's desire of most of us as we hear the New Year heralded:

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;  
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;  
Ring out the thousand wars of old,  
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the valiant man and free,  
The larger heart the kindlier hand;  
Ring out the darkness of the land,  
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

History relates that for a space of 1,000 years, in the dim, distant past, there was a surcease from war. Then someone devised the sword, long and sharp and death-dealing, the atom bomb of the period. Since then incessant wars have plagued mankind. Every generation, it seems, brings its contribution to the power to destroy human life in war. We may have reached the zenith with the hydrogen bomb!

In the winter of 1951 the federal government passed legislation which enabled western farmers with wheat in their bins to borrow money from the banks under partial government guarantee. The amount loaned was \$625,663.91 and defaulted loans paid by the government to the banks totalled \$23,587.38. The government has since recovered \$14,168.29, leaving the outstanding balance at \$9,419.49.

Fisheries Minister Sinclair, who also toured the USSR, had a woman interpreter, Mrs. Ellen Domanova, who was born in Langham, Sask. During the 1930's her mother and father separated and she accompanied her Russian-born mother back to Russia. Her first husband was killed in the last world war and she had re-married.

A hundred years ago the average life expectancy at birth was 40 years on this continent. Today in Canada the average age for men is 66.3 years and for women 70.8 years. The reason given by authorities for women living longer is that they are better equipped physically and psychologically for old age.

The 10,000 visitors attracted to Vancouver by the Grey Cup football spectacle (which I am glad to say Edmonton won over Montreal) spent around \$750,000 in that city, according to an estimate. For food the expenditure is placed at \$100,000 and for liquor \$300,000.

John Yuill writes from Vermillion to say he was one of Jim Hannaford's crew and saw the article and picture in the November issue. Says Jim forgot to tell how he took off his "chapeau" and stamped on it.

More letters in favor of crossword puzzle. One man writes to say it is worth the subscription price.

Quite a few letters have recently come from subscribers . . . one from Roland, Man., says: "Wouldn't want to miss the publication" . . . from Cowichan, B. C., "have taken the F. & R. for 40 years" . . . from Laura, Sask., "my husband says what a fine paper it is, with something for all members of the family" . . . from Tangle Flags, Sask., "greetings from an old-timer and reader of your great little paper" . . . from Legal, Alberta, "the Farm and Ranch Review is a very interesting farm paper" . . . and so on . . . always pleased to get letters from subscribers.

Elsewhere in this issue are explanations of how to measure hay in a stack and grain in a bin. Better cut them out for future reference.

Mrs. Ada Muir, of Port Langley, B.C., thanks me for the little boost I gave to honey consumption. Honey is the finest food in the world. Every family should have a supply.

The total volume of grain available for delivery in Western Canada is estimated at 884.6 million bushels for the crop year. By varieties, in millions of bushels: Wheat, 530.3; oats, 147.6; barley, 172.2; rye, 18.3, and flax, 16.2.

### FARM CASH INCOME

Total farm cash incomes for the four western provinces of Canada for the first 9 months of 1955 are given below, together with the figures for the first 9 months of 1954. The federal bureau of statistics is the authority.

	1955	1954
Manitoba . . . . .	\$121,002	\$119,783
Saskatchewan . . . . .	323,640	311,087
Alberta . . . . .	271,488	259,744
Br. Col. . . . .	73,765	71,014

### HELP!!

We are being swamped by changes of address. Please do not ask for a change of address effective for only 2 or 3 months. This causes us a great deal of work, and expense. If possible, please have someone forward your Farm and Ranch Review to you or have your Postmaster hold your issues until your return.—Circulation Dept., Farm and Ranch Review.

### Our Prescient Lamp Flashed Briefly On 1956

By IVAN HELMER

AS has been the practice for some time another year will have begun on the first day of January.

1956 will be a long year — 8,784 hours. This is longer than the year 1955, which was only 8,760 hours. Goodness knows that was a long year. Especially for the Calgary Stampeders and the Vancouver Lions.

But then everything is changing. The climate, political opinions (the Progressive Conservatives hope) and the waist lines of most people over thirty. Some under thirty are not doing bad. They don't get enough exercise pushing themselves back from the table.

It is too early to say what effect the atom bomb will have on the weather this year. But there will be no shortage of weather. We predict heat, heavy rains, snow, frost and drought. There will be earthquakes and tidal waves in certain parts. There will be winds up to hurricane velocity, calms, and balmy weather. Pestilence, scarcity, ideal conditions, and abundance is assured.

Much of the foregoing will be wrongly forecast from day to day.

There will be a dearth of good, funny stories in 1956, and no shortage of tax levies.

Ulcers will have one of their best seasons.

Millions of teen-agers won't get into a speck of trouble — but some of their parents will. Millions of car drivers won't kill or maim anyone, or even dent a fender.

1956 is a Leap Year. That is to say free men should leap to safety at the sight of a single woman with an acquisitive eye. Skulk in a dark doorway or somewhere until the danger has passed. Proceed during the whole year with trepidation and caution. This is the year the female is admittedly the predatory sex. That she isn't always is a myth probably first put into circulation by Aesop, a Greek confectioner, and a wag of his time.

Free enterprise will get less free and more enterprising. There will be few reports of flying saucers—except from the odd drunk who trips a waitress.

The government will continue to be supported by the people — and not vice versa as the government would like us to think.

The horse will continue to lose ground, along with the pedestrian.

Dairy farmers can still expect a long, hard pull before those milk cans are filled and trucked off to market. If the wheat farmer can live on platitudes, expert advice, and criticism, he will have one of his best years.

Building may fall off some, although carpenters will remain in the chips. The rainy day some of us have been saving for will come and will be too rainy. Others of us will be cheered through knowing a man who knows a cousin of a man who knows a man who won a sweepstake.

Many youngsters will give up a mother's apron string — or whatever youngsters are attached to mothers

by nowadays. But they will gain a mother-in-law. However, this will do them no real harm. As Mark Twain, or someone, said, "a certain amount of fleas are good for a dog. They keep his mind off his troubles."

Many people will stagger into the spring overcome from heavy fuel bills and itchy underwear only to be greeted by April 30th. This is the last day of grace granted by the Department of Internal (so called because it wrings a victim's very vitals) Revenue. This is the date by which, if you don't put up, you are apt to be shut-up.

Well-off people will have a busy summer. They will find many friends and relatives wanting. Hostess's and cooks who like guests with a hearty appetite are in for a happy time. A mean dog on the stoop may keep tramps and peddlers away, but the poor mutt will likely take to the tall timbers in despair with the coming of kith and kin.

Money — and belts — will be a little tighter in 1956. TV will hold its own, but COD's may gain ground. Labor will be seeking new fields to conquer. Probably a guaranteed hereafter.

All in all 1956 will be a year in which the young still, "don't know no better" and so will have as good a time as ever. It may be a year in which some of us oldsters almost wish we were alive, with a little sap coursing through hardened arteries.

The one certain thing about the year is that nothing will stop it from running its course. And it is safe to say it will be followed by an eternity of time. But how long anyone will be around to wind clocks and record it is in the laps of the scientists.

If there is one time more than another when a woman should be entirely alone it is when a line full of clothes comes down in the mud.

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Power Steering  
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In addition, the new Model "80" offers you championship fuel economy. In official tests at Lincoln, Nebraska, the "80" set a new record for fuel economy—the

third John Deere *Diesel* to accomplish this feat! Here's convincing proof that more of your fuel dollars will be turned into profit dollars with the Model "80" *Diesel*.

From radiator to drawbar, the new "80" is the ultra-modern tractor in the 5-6 plow field. Your John Deere dealer is eager to show and demonstrate it to you. See him soon, and drive the new John Deere Model "80" *Diesel*.

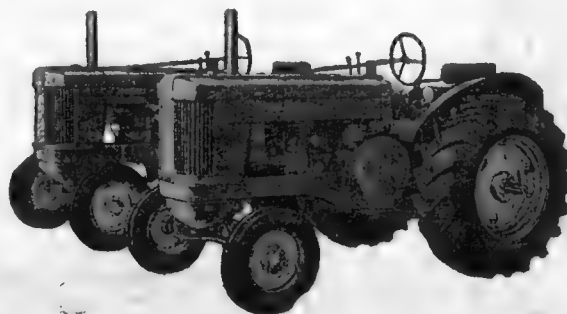
\*Belt h.p. is 67.64; drawbar is 61.76. Sea level (calculated); maximum drawbar power based on 60°F. and 29.92 in. Hg.

### Power Steering

John Deere Power Steering offers you new freedom from steering effort and driver fatigue. It's another outstanding feature available on the Model "80" Diesel.

### There's A Cost-Cutting John Deere Tractor for Every Need

If you have not yet driven a new John Deere 3-4 Plow "60" Standard or 4-5 Plow "70" Standard Tractor, you have a thrill in store. Both are available with John Deere Power Steering and your choice of a gasoline or all-fuel and, in the case of the "70," an outstandingly economical *Diesel* engine.



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## TO "I SAW" AUTHORS

The backlog of these letters has grown to such an extent that no further contributions will be accepted until further notice. Those on hand will be published as space permits.

One day Mother sent me to the loft to gather eggs. When I got to the loft the hen was gone, but the cat was there. She was in the nest and had seven kittens.

Gunn, Alberta.

I gave our four-months-old pup a sausage. She jumped up on the bed and pushed the clothes over it. Then jumped down very pleased with herself.

Kelwood, Manitoba.

One day last spring, as I was going for the horses, I saw something lying along the bush. At first I didn't know what it was. I thought it was a horse, but I counted them and saw they were all there. Then one of them saw me and ran towards the object and licked it. To my surprise it was a baby-born colt.

Square Hill, Sask.

Early one morning, while mother was washing dishes, there was a bang on the window pane. I went to see what it was and there lay a little snowbird on the ground. It did not move as I watched it for five minutes. Then mother said: "I'll go out and see if it is dead." Mother brought it in and held it in her hand. It just moved its eyes a little, but did not try to fly. We put it in a box and in about fifteen minutes it began to fly around the box, then mother let it go outside.

Box 264, Whitewood, Sask.

One day while looking at my traps, I came to my last trap which was by a spruce tree. There was a squirrel setting in a tree. I had the gun with me, so I shot it. The next night, when I came to this trap another squirrel was in the same tree. This went on for a whole week. I still do not know where so many squirrels came from.

Bill Purdy.  
R.R. No. 1, Gunn, Alberta.

I have a pet cat. Her name is Fuzzy. She was going to have kittens soon, and she did. Can you guess where she had them? She had her kittens in the manger in the barn. The chickens had laid nine eggs in the hay. Fuzzy had seven kittens in the same nest with the nine eggs. I enjoy reading this page. I am ten years old.

Myrna Runka.  
Meadowview, Alta.

Once when my friends and I were walking home from school, we saw a porcupine. He was eating bark on the top of a big willow tree. We took a dry stick and tried to push him off. We put the stick to his stomach and pushed; he nearly came off. We gave another push and he fell off. We started to chase him, but he ran into the brush. Because the brush was so thick we didn't feel like chasing him any longer, so we went home.

Walter Lenko.  
St. Walburg, Sask.

One day my sister and I were down in the pasture. We saw a porcupine under a log pile. We poked him with a pole. He never moved at all. We poked him again. He stuck some quills into the pole. We went home and left it alone thinking he was dead.

Three days later we went back to the same place and he was gone. I was glad because we don't like to kill a porcupine, because if a man is lost in the woods he can easily kill a porcupine and not starve.

John Moorhouse.  
Breton, Alberta.

Last March I found some cocoons hanging on dry willow branches. I took three of them to school. They were left in a paper bag on a shelf. We almost forgot about them. One Monday morning in early June our teacher found three cecropia moths crawling on the windows. They were very beautiful, with feathery feelers and dark brown wings with red and white bands and black and white markings. They measured nearly 6 inches between outspread wing tips. Our teacher said, when he found them, their wings were still moist. The class was surprised that such large moths could leave the cocoon through a hole about the size of a pencil. My brother, Dennis, still has one of the Cecropias in his collection of mounted moths and butterflies.

Harvey Giesbrecht.  
Box 16, Plum Coulee, Manitoba.

Last spring as one sow had pigs, one was a runt. Dad said that my sister could have it. They fed it with a bottle. Quite soon he was waddling along outside. Then we made a pen for him. In the night the cats

climbed on him and warmed him. They soon became friends with him. In the morning and evening, when we gave him milk, the cats would drink out of his trough. As he grew up, the house got too small for him. It was getting cold so my brother made him a bale house. The pig knocked the bales down and slept in the straw. Now the pig is very cold and he is all pink, so we've got him in a warm pig barn. His name is Philco. We'll be sorry to see him shipped.

Gary Thiessen.  
Box 6, Vauxhall, Alta.

One morning last summer I was standing by the stove, and I looked out of the window, there was a moose in the neighbor's field just across the road. It trotted across the field, and it looked like it just stepped over the fence. The fence was about three feet high. That was the fourth moose I ever saw. It sure gives a person a thrill to see one of these big animals.

Kenneth Adams.  
Box 83, Rimbey, Alta.

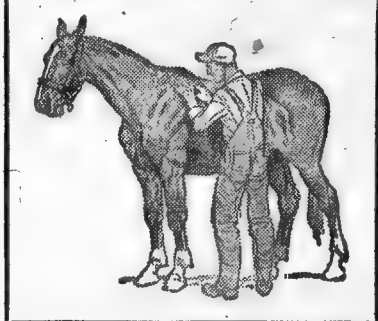
As I was gathering the eggs in the chicken house, I saw some snow fall from the hole in the roof. I wondered what it was, and, can you guess what it was? It was a cat coming down through the hole of the chicken house roof. It scared the chickens, and, oh! how it scared me. Then after that I put a block over the hole in the chickenhouse roof. That sure felled him.

James Teasdale.  
Vermilion, Alta.

One night last week when mama went to close the hen-coop door, there were some hens who didn't want to go to roost. When mama chased them in, they ran out again in a very flustered manner. Behind them came a big, fat weasel who ran out behind them. Mama called Daddy and he sat a trap at the door where the weasel came out. After supper, Daddy looked at the trap and to his surprise the weasel was caught by his front leg.

Yvonne Durstling.  
Box 45, Breton, Alta.

The Canadian Flax Institute says that it is not likely that other oils will ever supplant linseed in the manufacture of paint. For outside surfaces linseed still stands supreme. The tendency to turn yellow has been overcome. For inside surfaces other oils have been added with satisfactory results.



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# Slim Woods, Of Hunting Hills

By JANE HAVENS

SCHOOLED in the ways of the west, dignified yet friendly, cautious of strangers yet one to make every visitor feel at home—that is Slim Woods as you see him today. If ever there was a ranch with a beautiful natural setting it is the YE ranch in the Hunting Hills on Alberta's Red Deer river. You reach the house by the new highway which goes north from Gregory Ferry to Wardlow, Cessford and Hanna. The road runs close to the house and Slim, with the curiosity of a lone bachelor, watches every car that passes. He quite often gets a ride to Brooks, 30 miles away, where he can spend the weekend visiting with his old-time neighbors who are still recalling the 1900's. The old neighbors include David Porteous, genial Scotch cook of the Anchor P ranch in the days of George Emerson and Rod MacLeay; John Elde who settled north of the Red Deer in 1897; Jack Thomas, cook for the Circle ranch for 16 years. Slim, whose name is Herbert, was better known among the early cowboys as Moccasin Foot. In his 70's he is a tall, fine-looking chap with a hearty handclasp and a smile you remember. He was an expert roper and ranked among the best in his day.

Slim worked for different outfits such as the Circle, the Anchor P, the Bar U, and the Denton which later was taken over by Mike Stapleton, with the three hooks, sometimes called the Walking Cane brand. In the early days when cattle strayed as far as 100 miles the cowboys often went for months without wages as the boss never knew just where they were when on the round-up. Being from the southern states, Slim calls a cowboy a waddy and a string of horses a remuda. He explains that if you saw some of the round-up boys at a shipping point sleeping out on the prairie some distance from the bed tent it was just as well not to ask too many questions. If there was an operator at the shipping point the boys would order jugs of liquor and if a passenger train went through in the night the jugs would be sitting beside the track in the morning.

One English lad, Charlie Harper, who was riding with the outfit one year said he had been lost all summer because the sun generally rose in the east but set wherever it jolly well pleased. When setting up camp at a shipping point the boys often rode up and down the tracks hunting iron pegs to set up their tents.

In the early days a man often took the law into his own hands. Said Slim, "One day I was driving a bunch of steers to ship for my boss. I was fairly close to the shipping point when Pat Burns and some riders showed up and took them away from me. Before long I saw another bunch of riders show up on the skyline and take the cattle away from Pat. I never did find out the rights of the matter but there was some controversy over a money deal."

## The Homesteaders

Slim has watched the land around him change from ranching to farming. Some homesteaders came with few effects but many plans, but after ten years of hardship their courage failed and they faded from the picture. He tells of being startled one day by music coming from the open door of a tiny shack. The couple had brought along their piano, an almost unheard of article in those days, and while her husband was away the young wife relieved the lonely hours by playing her favorite airs. But they

too gave up and moved away and today nothing is left but the root-cellar and a large flat rock which might have been the door-step.

Slim's nearest neighbor is Alf Bradshaw, who operates the Gregory Ferry. To the north are Sam and Arthur Wiig. Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Pearson, who were among the first settlers, still live in the district. The others have gone. The Zeers, the Josephs, the Murphys, the Eides, the Saddys. Alya Saddy, who married Prime Minister Mohammed Ali of Pakistan, spent her early girlhood north of the Red Deer.



H. E. WOODS

Steveville, which in the twenties was a busy town, is now deserted. As you drive through you see an old stove and Jake Schaeffer's garage—mute reminders that people once lived and worked there. Many will recall the late Steve Hall for whom the town was named and who carried on business there for many years. Even in the early days he predicted that one day oil would be found in the district. His predictions came true. News that an oil company contemplated moving machinery across his property was thought to have brought on a heart attack which hastened the old-timer's death. At one time Mr. and Mrs. Hall owned a boarding house, livery barn, dance hall, store and post office. In front of the store was a hitching rack.

One of Slim Woods most prized possessions is the book, "Trails I Rode," written by an old-time Montana rancher, Con Price, and dedicated, "To the memory of Charlie Rus-

sell, who loved the Old West and mourned its passing." All illustrations in the book are by Charlie Russell. In it is an autograph reading: "To H. Woods, my friend of forty years ago. Hoping you have no rocks or bad crossings on your trail of life. Con Price, March 10, '50."

At one time Con Price and Charlie Russell were partners on the Lazy KY ranch in Montana. In 1950 Slim Woods visited Price in his California home.

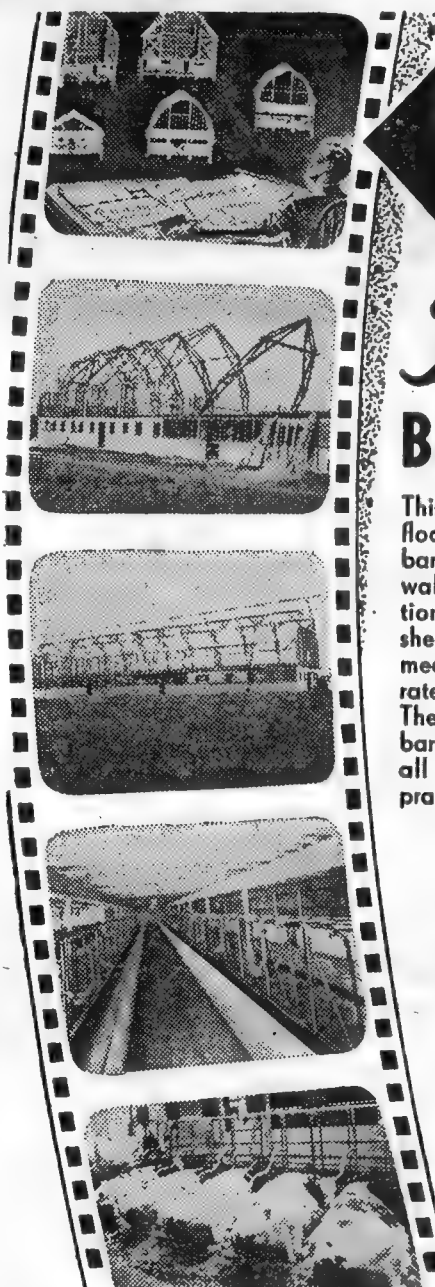
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mixture are Reed Canary, 5 lbs. per acre and Alsike Clover, 2 lbs. per acre. Suggested hay rates are 4 lbs. and 3 lbs. respectively. Some timothy may be added to the mixture as it does well where moisture is plentiful. As with other forage plantings a firm seed bed is required and depth of seeding should be no greater than one-half inch.

Tree stumps can be rotted out by cutting them as close to the ground line as possible, covering them with soil or sod, and keeping the stump area moist so wood-destroying fungi and insects can work.

Manitoba Co-operative Honey Producers handled 1,832,000 lbs. of honey from the 1954 honey crop. Net return to producers was 16¢ a lb. at the apiary, compared with 14¢ the previous year. The 1955 honey crop was larger than the 1954 and the co-operative received 2,400,000 lbs. up to last November.



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# Diary Of a Big-4 Tractor

By JAMES HANNAFORD

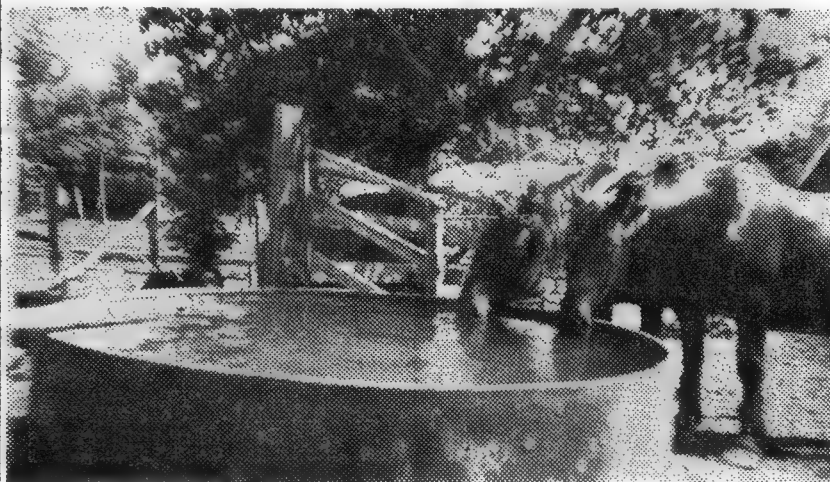
I WAS shipped to Brooks, Alberta in the spring of 1913 and was sold to Jim Hannaford of Howie for the price of \$3,800 — \$800 cash and three \$1,000 yearly notes bearing interest at 8 per cent till due and 10 per cent after due. I was a big, robust engine, my rear wheels being 8 ft. high and 30 inches wide and I weighed ten tons. My fastest speed was two miles per hour.

After being filled with gas, oil and water I started out for the Hannaford farm at Howie, 60 miles away. When I arrived at the Red Deer river at Steveston there was another tractor, a Rumley, that had crossed on the ice in the winter and was waiting

on the far side for the water level to go down as it was going to Brooks to do spring plowing. It weighed seven tons and when it got on the ferry it tipped it up on end so the tractor backed off and gave up the idea of crossing the river that way. The ferries of those times were built to carry only teams and wagons and I was built for land and not for water. So I got cold feet and went back to Brooks and did the Rumley's plowing, completing 1,000 acres before May 15. I was hitched to a ten bottom plow and worked from daylight to dark, having no lights for night work.

#### Crossing the River

After May 15 I went to breaking



Journey's End for "Big 4 Tractor".

as it must have plowed 25,000 acres and threshed over a million bushels of grain. "Forget it," he said, and they went off and left me sitting there alone.

I sat there for about two weeks and then I saw a green, shiny pup come along. When it got close I saw it was a John Deere, jumping and prancing all over, not firing regular and not half as big as me. They hitched it to my front but I would not budge. Then they hitched it to the back of me and with a down-hill pull I had to follow but it sure hurt my feelings to have that youngster pull me around the farm yard where they left me. Occasionally they came around to pull out some of my bolts to fix other machines.

#### Still Useful

Then one day Jim and the two boys, who with their mother had saved my life when crossing the river 25 years earlier, (they were now grown men) came along and took me apart. My radiator was used for a soft water tank, my gas tank was put in the house for a pressure water tank, my pipes and oil tank were for a hot water system and my water pump was put down at a dugout. There it pumped water over gardens which grew lovely flowers and shrubs.

My big wheels, of which I was very proud, were made into stock water tanks. They were laid on their sides, 6 inches of concrete set on the bottom, and the bolt holes plugged with lead. It made me happy to see the satisfied looks on the faces of horses and cattle after they had quenched their thirst on a hot summer day. Also I was pleased to know that a Big Four tractor can still be useful after over a quarter century of service to a man like Jim Hannaford!

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Jim has had many letters from friends all over the west after his article, "A Famous Wagon Race," appeared in the November issue. Some mailed their letters to Howie P.O., Alberta. There is now no Howie P.O. His address is 4024 1A St. S.W., Calgary, Alberta.

### Brownlee Presentation

IN a presentation to the Gordon Economic Commission, J. E. Brownlee, Q.C., president of the United Grain Growers Ltd., suggested that the Canadian government should take action to introduce into the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade a ban against "dumping" of agricultural products. The high wheat prices guaranteed growers in Western Europe, in the United Kingdom, and in the United States has encouraged the delivery of every possible bushel of wheat, said Mr. Brownlee, and has cut down the feeding of wheat to livestock.

Mr. Brownlee expressed the opinion that low-grade wheat in Canada and the United States should be dyed and kept for stock feed instead of being permitted to enter commercial channels as milling wheat.

The high domestic wheat prices in various countries has induced the breaking up of grass land for wheat production. France is now exporting 90 million bushels of wheat, rivaling Argentina and Australia as a wheat exporter.

For the immediate financial assistance of Western Canadian wheat producers, Mr. Brownlee suggested that a payment on grain already delivered by farmers from the 1954 and 1955 crops might be a way out of the difficulty.



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sod, pulling six plows and covering 325 acres. This was all custom work at \$3 an acre for breaking and \$1.50 an acre for stubble plowing. But my owner had bought me to break his land so back to THAT river I went after they had reinforced the ferry with 10 empty steel drums to carry my extra weight. My owner had to sign a paper to accept all risks. I was slowly run up on to the ferry and I must say the other bank looked a long way off, and there the deepest and swiftest water ran. The ferry pushed off and glided smoothly for about 200 feet and then I felt it begin to quiver under me. Looking back I saw my owner's wife and two little boys, 2 and 4 years old, kneeling on the bank. I then felt a steady force that sent the ferry swiftly to the other shore. When we reached the landing and I went up the bank like a conquering hero a shout of praise went up from a dozen men who had watched the perilous trip. I hoped never to go on the water again!

#### The End of the Trail

We were soon on our way to the farm at Howie 30 miles away. The first job I did there was to plow a foot deep five acres for a shelter belt and garden. I could pull only two plows that deep but the way those trees and flowers grew the experiment worked wonders. I then settled down to regular farm work, plowing and threshing, some years good some bad, but I never got tired and always willing to work. Then came 1937 when I was plowing a fireguard and going uphill, straining every bit of steel I had in me, when a connecting rod broke which really put me out of business. After Jim saw what I had done he sat down on the tool box feeling very sorry for me. A neighbor came along and asked what the trouble was, and Jim said "I have lost my best friend!" The neighbor, who was good at figures said it was time the old thing was pensioned off

## Burns—Patriot—Bard

(To Immortal Memory — 1956)

By

STANLEY FRANKLIN  
KEMSLEY

IT is now a month after Christmas, Jan. 25th — Bobbie Burns' Birthday.

Born in 1759, the son of a toil-worn Ayrshire farmer, Bobbie Burns thought he would leave his native heather to settle among the monagoes of Jamaica in the West Indies.

Later, he fancied himself as an immigrant to frozen Canada.

And so the National Poet of Scotland might have become, instead, a good Canadian farmer, sowing his wheat, like the Loyalists, among hill-side tree stumps, and gumbo ground.

He stands straight, today (he was 5 ft. 10 inches), in Vancouver's Stanley Park. He might well be breathing the fresh pine scented air of Canada's 1790's.

Bobbie Burns has many descendants scattered over the broad Dominion, some living even as near as the town of Taber in Southern Alberta.

Mossiel, the Burns' family farm, proved an agricultural failure. In despair, Bobbie penned, by flickering candlelight, his restive thoughts.

1786 saw the treasured Kilmarnock edition of his poems published.

Burns had laid the cornerstone of Scottish National Poetry.

It is interesting to note Bobbie Burns political philosophy during his turbulent era. Rumbles from the French Revolution of 1789 disturbed his poetic metres. Politics and poetry often clashed, but poetic measures proved superior to political tracts.

So Burns is known in 1956 as the Poet of the Highlands rather than as a mere political pamphleteer stamping on Glasgow's soap boxes.

Burns thought naturally that political reform would free the lowly Scottish farmer. His "Universal Plan" tried to outline a system of serf emancipation.

"Why should one man better be?"

Bloody revolution alone could supply that answer, and Burns was not made for physical aggressive action.

Only in the realm of poetic thought could he excel, and thus influence the whole of humanity.

Of Burns many famous love lyrics little may be said here.

It was given to Bobbie Burns to love many lassies. His hundreds of songs show that he made practical use of his amorous adventures.

And he was only 37 years when he died (July 31, 1796) — so much may be forgiven him.

"Thou golden time of youthful prime  
Why comest thou not again?"

What true Scotsman does not recall some of the songs of Scotia's glory that echo and re-echo throughout the creviced crags and green glens?

"Scots Wha hae wi' Wallace Bled," "Mary Queen of Scots," "Lament for Charles Edward Stuart," "Bruce to His Army at Bannockburn," "The Battle of Sheriff — Muir."

Burns' patriotic attitude is well summed up in the closing stanzas of his beloved:

"Cotter's Saturday Night"

"O Scotia! my dear, my native soil!  
For whom my warmest wish to Heaven is sent,  
Long may thy hardy sons of rustic toil  
Be blest with health, and peace, and sweet content!

And O! may Heaven their simple lives prevent

From luxury's contagion, weak and vile!

Then, howe'er crown and coronets be rent

A virtuous populace may arise the while

And stand a wall of fire around their much-loved isle.

And Thou! who poured the patriotic tide

That streamed thro' great unhappy Wallace' heart

Who dared to nobly stem tyrannic pride

Or nobly die the second glorious part  
(The patriot's God peculiarly thou art  
His friend, inspirer, guardian, and reward!

O never, never Scotia's realm desert!  
But still the patriot, and the patriot-bard

In bright succession rise, her ornament and guard!"

1796, marks the wintertime of Burns' brief span of frustrated endeavor.

"But now our joys are fled  
On winter's blast awa'."

Burns, with Gaelic clairvoyance, could vision, but did not experience: "Oh! age has weary days,  
And nights of sleepless pain!"

Somewhere the Poet writes: "Behold the hour, the boat arrives,  
Thou goest, thou darling,

(Scotland's pride)

Bobbie Burns was not for a revolutionistic age, but for all time, in Scottish literary and national history.

Further, his words were writ large, for all the world to see.

## We Were Pioneers Too

By FLORENCE HILARY

THE real old-timers who endured so many hardships would probably look on the homesteaders who settled on the east central prairies of Alberta in 1910 as Johnny-come-latelys not deserving of the title of pioneer.

But it certainly seemed like pioneering. The railway had not yet gone through and supplies had to be brought by wagon for thirty miles. Mail was a little nearer, being brought by stage to within twenty miles.

This being the open prairie which had often been swept by fire there was a severe shortage of fuel. Every tiny bit of wood was precious and hoarded carefully. Sometimes a trip was made by wagon to a river some twenty-five miles distant to get a load of wood from the sparse growth of trees along its banks. Then there were the trips for coal to a mine 60 miles away. This was used as sparingly as possible for these trips could not be made too often. When all else failed, there was that classic stand-by of the prairie dweller who had to keep the fire going somehow—buffalo chips.

Building materials were scarce, of course, and many sod shacks were put up, some being built over the entrance to a dug-out in the side of a hill which was used as part of the house. The country filled up rapidly so isolation was not a problem for long.

A Sunday gathering was soon organized at the home of an elderly couple, a sort of Sunday school, with hymns and discussions. Some time later an ex-minister who had homesteaded some distance away held occasional services.

Many social gatherings were held in different houses, everyone for many miles being considered neighbors and

always welcome. When the need for a school became urgent, the first school building in that whole country was erected and became the centre of activities for many years.

Some oxen were used in those days, and many acres of prairie were broken up with this slow-moving power and a walking plow. However, the railway soon came through, a new post office was established a short distance away together with a general store and soon small towns sprang up along the railway.

With settlement there were no more prairie fires and trees began to grow slowly around sloughs. Many families planted trees around their buildings and gradually the country took on a well established look.

Soon there were rural mail routes and even telephones.

But for a few years we thought we were real pioneers.

Florence Hilary.

The United States government is planning to purchase \$85,000,000 worth of pork products totalling 200,000,000 lbs. of pork and lard in order to bolster prices which have been declining. The government purchase will be disposed of through a school lunch program, charitable institutions and needy persons.

The Edmonton Exhibition Association showed a loss of \$76,996 for 10 months' operations. The operations of the junior and senior hockey teams accounted for over \$45,000 of that loss. The Flyers showed a loss of \$27,500 and the Oil Kings (junior team) of over \$13,000.

The 1955 wheat crop in Argentina may be much smaller than the 282 million bushel outturn of the 1954 crop. Reports from that South American country indicate that the wheat export surplus may not be much more than 75,000,000 bushels.

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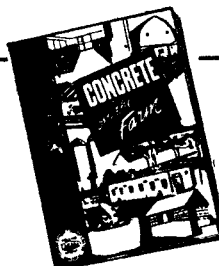
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**OGILVIE 4-WAY VITAMIN ENRICHED FLOUR!**

*"It's Sifted Through Silk"*



**Aunt  
Sal  
Suggests**

*And now we face a brand new year,  
I hope you'll find it fair;  
I send my fondest greetings,  
To readers everywhere.*

**H**ONESTLY I wish I had the space at my command to start reminiscing over the year just gone. I know from your letters that all of you had your share of good times and bad, but we can always hope that the next year will be that mythical "The Year."

We are all human, I the most of all it seems, and I know I've made mistakes but if I have caused any hurt feelings through anything I've written you either on my pages or in the private letters to you, please believe me dears when I say it was not intentional. This is not a cut-and-dried job I have, so much of the human element goes into it. I thoroughly enjoy sitting down for this chat to you each month. I'd be woefully lost without it. When you are kind enough to state in your letters to me that you look on me as your friend I always mutter, "The same to you."

As you know I don't go in for high-falutin' recipes. Most of mine are of the homey, simple style that the average home cook can toss up without fuss or flurry. It seems as if easy-to-make cookies and cakes are your favorite demand. Those that have enjoyed the longest popularity among you readers are these: Coontown cake, Crazy Cake, Crumb Cake, Queen Elizabeth Cake and that never-fail White Cake I gave you a couple of months back. (Note: If there are any of these that you new readers want enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope and it will rush back to you.) This past month I added another recipe to this cake category. Easy to make, easy to bake and easy to eat. What more can we ask?

**Walnut Cake:** 2 cups sifted cake flour, 2½ tps. baking powder, ½ tsp. baking powder, ½ tsp. salt, ¾ cup butter, 1 cup granulated sugar, 3 eggs, 2/3 cup milk, 1 tsp. vanilla, ½ cup finely rolled walnuts and flavoring. I used few drops maple extract.

You don't need directions I'm sure, just mix up like any ordinary cake but save out a little of the flour in which you dust the nuts. And before attacking the nuts with the rolling pin place them inside a plastic bag, saves muss and you can see what you're doing. I use this same method when rolling out dried bread for crumbs too.

Now, for baking directions: Grease a large loaf pan and line it with waxed paper and grease it too. This will assure the cake of slipping out neatly. You only need a 350° F. oven and the baking time is about one hour.

**Home-Made Cheese:** — And now to keep the promise I made to you back last November which was to share some good home-made cheese recipes with you. I'll be very truthful and admit I have not made a single one of these, but other women who are smarter and less lazy than I have made them over a stretch of years and they have generously passed on their pet recipes to us. We seem to run in cycles in this column and the cheese cycle has rolled round again. (But naturally a round cheese would

roll round wouldn't it? Pardon the pun!)

**Spread-Easy Cheese:** — This came in from Mrs. G. B., of Wetaskiwin, Alberta. 5 cups cottage cheese, 1 cup sweet cream, ½ to ¾ cup butter, 1 tsp. paprika, 3 tps. soda, salt to taste.

Mix all ingredients and let stand in a glass bowl for ½ hour. Then slowly boil in a double boiler until it thickens stirring often. It scorches easily. Mrs. B promises us this makes a very delectable cheese for spreading on sandwiches.

**Sweet Milk Cheese:** — This was sent in by Mrs. D. R., Chilliwack, B.C., and it makes a five-pounder. Mrs. R. admits that this has been in use by herself and others for twenty-five years. Heat 5 gallons of milk to 80 or 90 degrees. Add 1/3 tsp. cheese coloring (butter coloring will not do) and stir well. Mix coloring with 2 cups milk before adding rennet. Mix ¼ tsp. rennet in 2 cups cold water. Add to milk and stir for 3 minutes. Then stir gently until bubbles form by flicking finger into milk. Let milk stand until curds form. When curds are firm enough to break over finger it is ready to cut. Cut curds in both directions several times then place over heat. Stir curds steadily to keep from matting (what's that?) for 15 minutes. Heat to 102°F. Curds should still be loose when squeezed by hand. You surely have to have clean paws before starting on this project.) Take from heat and let stand for 10 minutes. Strain through colander, add 3 tbsps. salt and mix well. For a mold use a 10-lb. honey pail. Punch a few holes on sides and bottom for drainage. Line with cheesecloth and put curds in and cover with more cloth. Weight it down well for about 2 hours until whey is all out. Then remove from mold and wrap it in fresh cheesecloth. Put in cool place and turn it twice daily for 2 weeks, then turn two or three times a week until it is ready to use which is about 2 months.

Dear me, I hope some of you make this cheese and ask me out to visit for I can tell you right now I'm never going through all that performance. I'm the lazy kind who goes to a food market and says, "Give me a pound of that, please."

There are recipes for spreading cheese and hard block cheese, but many of you asked for the soft cake cheese that will slice so I'm saving that for next month so you watch for that one, eh? In the meantime if any of you cheesemakers have extra advice or comments to make on the two recipes of this month don't be shy about coming forward with it. You needn't be afraid of me for I've never made anything except cottage cheese in my life, but I've eaten a lot of cheese in my time and if I dare let cheese be lacking from my larder you should just hear Oscar roar! He likes cheese, even for breakfast. Have you got a man that queer? Bye bye for now, and every good wish.

Aunt Sal.

A city girl was determined not to show her ignorance on her first visit to her uncle's farm. The first morning she found a bowl of honey on the table and anxious to demonstrate her knowledge of all things rural, she remarked, "Oh, I see you keep a bee."

A city man consoling a farmer said: "Why you ought to be in clover. You have your own milk, butter, eggs, meat and vegetables. You have a nice place to live. That's quite a lot." "Yes," agreed the farmer, "but you come around about 5 or 6 months from now and you will see the fattest, sleekest, nakedest farm family you ever saw."

## Let's Ask Aunt Sal . . .

The old year's gone and now we face,  
The year one . . . nine . . . five . . . six;  
We wonder what new problems,  
We'll try our best to fix.

FIRST off the bat I want to say a big sincere "thank you" for the fine friendly co-operation you've shown me during the past year in the solving of innumerable tricky, home-making problems. As it is I put in long hours daily tracking down this clue and that. I read books, I call up experts on the telephone, I talk things over with people that are much smarter than I am. On top of that I have the comforting assurance that scattered all over the country live you readers who are ready, able and willing to jump into the fray and share your personal experiences with us. Without your help I couldn't have the courage to keep going. Thank you . . . thank you . . . thank you!

Q.: I would like the pattern for the cushion rose on top? (Repeatedly repeated.) A.: At this date I have about 50 letters all asking for this pattern and some of you have written me twice for it. Now listen, ladies, when I get hold of this pattern I'll tell you about it on this page so just keep watching. I've done heaps of research in trying to locate it and I'll keep on trying but I ask you NOT TO WRITE IN FOR IT, for I haven't got it and to date cannot find it.

Q.: What is the proper temperature to have cream for churning? — (Mrs. J. P., Spirit River, Alta.). A.: I have done very little churning in my life, but my dairy bulletin says at room temperature which I take to mean about 65 degrees.

Q.: How can I remove an ink spot from a grey wool coat? A.: This is the type of question that threatens to turn my hair grey. I have written a lot about ink stains and I thought I'd explained that the different types of ink call for different types of removers. But the newest way is to try banana oil. It has a fancy name, but your druggist will know what you mean. Some readers have written in thanking me for mentioning this. They jubilated over the fine success they'd had with this.

Q.: Could you tell me where to get a book on boning meats? — (Mrs. B. C. S., Milo, Alta.) A.: For women writing in questions of this type I advise them to write to Department of Agriculture at Edmonton, Regina or capital of your own province. This department puts out a bulk of fine free literature that is helpful for the rural woman.

Q.: How can one get home-dipped chocolates that are a nice light color like the best ones we buy? — (Mrs. F. G.) A.: Consult your food dealer and I'm sure he'll tell you there are now two shades in cake chocolate—light and dark brown. If you prefer your chocolates to be light, then buy the lighter shade.

Q.: Can one can mint and how?—(Repeat.) A.: This caught the attention of many readers and I received a number of replies. One lady (who asked to have her name with held) has this to say: "Mint can be picked during the summer before frost, washed and dried in paper bags. When very dry, rub between hands and store the rubbed leaves in sealers like any herb. The following is Mrs. Beeton's recipe for mint sauce: 4 tbsps. chopped or dried mint, 2 tbsps. sugar, ¼ pint vinegar. There is actually no knack to it (says Mrs. Beeton).

Q.: How can I handle the problem of a damp cellar? (Repeat.) A.: There was a flood of letters came in regarding this problem: one male reader

even drew an elaborate diagram showing what changes must be made in the cellar. (I forwarded this letter to original lady who sent in question.) Here is a very cute, easy solution sent in by Mrs. K. C. O., Ninette, Man., who wrote: "Set several enamel basins half filled with coarse salt on the floor of the cellar. These will half fill with water drawn in from the damp air, empty out the water, dry out the salt and place the basin in cellar again." Of course everyone who wrote in emphasized that you must have good ventilation in the cellar and several also suggested that the odor of the dampness could be reduced by sprinkling lime on the floor.

NOTE: — All readers are invited to send in their home-making problems to Aunt Sal in care of the Farm and Ranch Review, Calgary, Alberta. Please limit one question to each letter and if you wish a private reply enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. There is no charge for this service.

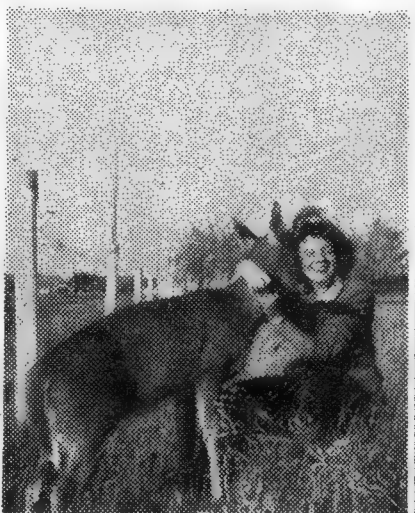
### Mary Was a Milkmaid

by Mary E. McVey  
Grandview, Man.

THIS happened many years ago, when I was living with my brother on his homestead. He had no cows, only a team of horses. A kind neighbour insisted on loaning us a cow. One day when my brother was over at his place, Mr. Dalgleish tied the cow behind the wagon, a nice little roan beast.

Soon after the arrival of the cow, my brother was to be away from home so he tied bossy inside a log stable, which had walls up but no roof. On the day after I was to take charge of the cow. I went to the stable. The minute I entered she commenced to paw up the earth, bellow and snuff and if I went near her she fairly went mad. What was I to do? Brother was away. I reasoned that Mr. Dalgleish had milked her and expected us to do the same. I concluded that the reason she was frightened was that she had never been milked by a woman, so I went to the house, donned a pair of my brother's overalls a smock and his hat and never spoke lest she detect a strange voice.

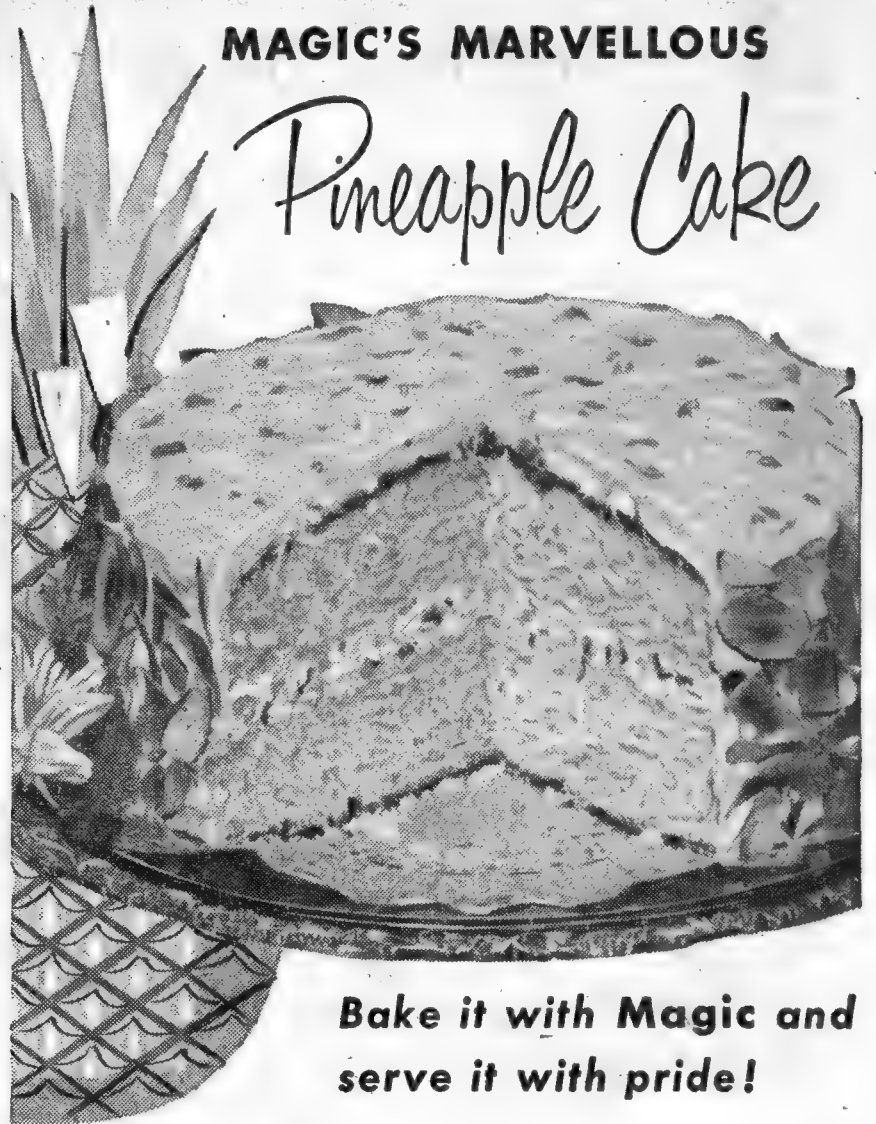
I went back to the barn and the cow was quite agreeable. I milked her, keeping a sharp lookout at those treacherous looking hind legs, but the overalls did the trick. That was before women thought of wearing slacks, so I soon got out of them.



Helen Budholt, of Bjorkdale, Sask., with pet.

## MAGIC'S MARVELLOUS

# Pineapple Cake



Bake it with Magic and  
serve it with pride!

SUNNY ISLETS of golden pineapple in a creamy sea of fragrant frosting . . . a tropical topping for the light, clinging texture and flavory filling within.

And it's your success as well as Magic's—this dream of a Pineapple Cake! For—you made it yourself!

Yes, in all your baking you can depend on Magic for praise-winning results. Check your supply of Magic Baking Powder before you shop this week.

Costs less than 1¢  
per average baking



### MAGIC PINEAPPLE CAKE

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 8 tbsps. quick-mix shortening (at room temperature) | ½ tsp. salt                       |
| 2 cups once-sifted pastry flour                     | 1¼ cups fine granulated sugar     |
| or 1¾ cups once-sifted all-purpose flour            | ¼ cup syrup from canned pineapple |
| 3½ tbsps. Magic Baking Powder                       | ½ cup milk                        |
|   | 1 tsp. vanilla                    |
|   | 2 eggs                            |

Grease two 8-inch round layer cake pans and line bottoms with greased paper. Preheat oven to 375° (moderately hot). Measure shortening into mixing bowl. Sift flour, Magic Baking Powder, salt and sugar together once, then sift over the shortening in the mixing bowl. Add the syrup from canned pineapple, milk and vanilla. Beat with a mixing spoon for 300 strokes. Add the unbeaten eggs and beat another 300 strokes. Turn into prepared pans. Bake in preheated oven about 25 minutes.

**VIENNESE PINEAPPLE FILLING AND FROSTING:** Turn into upper pan of double boiler 2 egg whites, 1 cup granulated sugar and 3 tbsps. syrup from canned pineapple; stir until sugar is partly dissolved. Place over boiling water and cook, beating constantly with rotary beater, until frosting will stand in peaks—about 7 minutes. Remove from heat and beat in ½ tsp. vanilla. Cover pan with a wet cloth and cool mixture completely. Cream ½ cup butter or margarine until very soft; add the cooled icing, a little at a time, beating with mixing spoon after each addition until frosting is blended and creamy. Take out about ¼ cup frosting and fold in 2 tbsps. well-drained finely-cut canned pineapple and ¼ cup toasted chopped Brazil nuts; put cold cakes together with this mixture. Fold ¼ cup well-drained finely-cut canned pineapple into remaining frosting and use to cover top and sides of cake. Decorate sides of cake with toasted thinly-shaved Brazil nuts or sprinkle liberally with shredded coconut.



# 4 Danish Bun Treats from One Basic Dough!

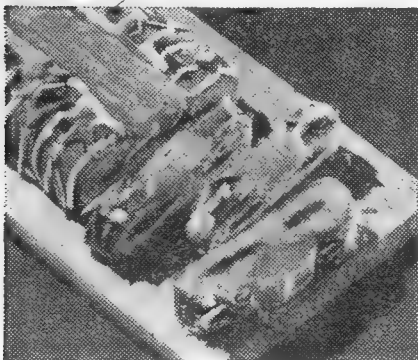
1. Apricot Turnovers



2. Raisin Rounds



3. Jam Strips



4. Cinnamon Braid



## For Luscious Variety use New Active Dry Yeast

This rich Danish Bun Dough rewards you with 4 gorgeous treats out of the same oven! Successful risings with Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast are the secret! So whenever you bake at home, be sure you have Fleischmann's on hand.



Needs No  
Refrigeration

### BASIC DANISH BUN DOUGH

Measure into a small bowl

- 1 cup lukewarm water
- 3 teaspoons granulated sugar

and stir until sugar is dissolved.

Sprinkle with contents of

- 3 envelopes Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well. Sift together twice, then sift into mixing bowl

- 6 cups once-sifted bread flour
- ½ cup fine granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt

Cut in finely

- 1 pound chilled butter or margarine

Beat together until light and thick

- 2 eggs
- 1 egg yolk

and stir into yeast mixture.

Make a well in the flour mixture and pour in yeast mixture; combine thoroughly. Knead dough in the bowl until smooth. Cover dough closely with waxed paper and chill.

Beat together slightly with a fork and hold to finish fancy doughs,

- 1 egg white
- 1 tablespoon cold water

Turn out dough on lightly-floured board.

Divide into 4 equal portions and finish as follows:

**1. Apricot Turnovers.** Roll out dough to 9 x 12 inches. Cut into 12 squares; moisten edges. Put spoonful of apricot jam on each square; fold into turnovers; seal; snip tops. Place on greased cookie sheet. Cover. Let rise in warm place 15 mins. Brush with egg-white mixture; sprinkle with chopped almonds and sugar. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, 20 mins.

**2. Raisin Rounds.** Cream 2 tbsps. butter; mix in ¼ cup brown sugar, 1 tbsp. flour, 1 tsp. grated lemon rind and ¾ cup raisins. Roll out dough to ¼-inch thickness; cut into 2½-inch rounds. Moisten edges of half the rounds with water; place spoonful of raisin mixture on each one; cover with remaining rounds; seal; cut an X in top of each round. Place on greased cookie sheet. Cover. Let rise in warm place 15 minutes. Brush with egg-white mixture; sprinkle with sugar. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, 18 to 20 mins. Frost while hot, if desired.

**3. Jam Strips.** Roll out dough to 5 x 15 inches. Run strip of 2 tbsps. thick jam down each side, 1 inch in from edge. Moisten edges and fold over jam to meet in centre; seal. Place on greased cookie sheet. Cover. Let rise in warm place 15 mins. Brush with egg-white mixture; sprinkle with slivered nuts and sugar. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, 25 to 30 mins. While hot, spoon thick lemon filling down centre. Drizzle with frosting.

**4. Cinnamon Braid.** Combine ½ cup sugar and ½ tsp. cinnamon; sprinkle all but 2 teaspoonsfuls on baking board; place dough on board; roll out to 9 x 14 inches; fold dough over twice. Repeat rolling and folding twice. Roll out dough to 4 x 16 inches; cut into 3 long strips, joined at one end; braid. Place on greased cookie sheet. Cover. Let rise in warm place 15 mins. Brush with egg-white mixture; sprinkle with 2 tbsps. chopped almonds and 2 tbsps. sugar mixture. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, 30 mins. Spread hot braid with frosting.

**CONFECTIONER'S FROSTING:** Combine 1½ cups sifted icing sugar, 2½ tbsps. milk and ¼ tsp. vanilla.

## The Yeager Contributions To Horticulture

By PERCY H. WRIGHT

IT is a lucky circumstance for horticultural progress that not all plant-breeding is concentrated at one station, or even that not all is directed from one central office. New minds mean new ideas, new ideas mean new projects, and new projects eventually mean new achievements.

When Professor A. F. Yeager was at the North Dakota Station, he demonstrated a capacity to find plant-breeding projects that others had overlooked. For instance, he crossed a native wild gooseberry named Hirtellum with the large-fruited Oregon Champion, and got three brand-new varieties, Pixwell, Abundance and Perry, and of these Pixwell is still our most often-planted variety. He also was carrying on work with tomatoes, breeding from a relative of the tomatoes named Red Cherry, for determinate growth and extreme earliness associated with dwarfness of bush. From this work have resulted not only later varieties of his own breeding, but also the varieties bred and selected by almost all those interested in the very early class of tomato. At North Dakota he originated Bison, Farthest North, Redskin, Allred, Early Jumbo, and others. Of these Farthest North is still grown, and Redskin would still be grown if only it were not so nearly seedless that seedsmen cannot make any money producing the seed. Probably we should grow plants in our houses all winter, and propagate it by cuttings in the spring. Early Jumbo is a variety that is hard to understand about. It should have been carefully cherished. Just the other day I heard a lady whom I knew of in the thirties remark that she wished she could get a start at it again. It combines reasonable hardness with enormous size of fruits. Bison, of course, is still being grown.

After Dr. Yeager left North Dakota he moved to Michigan for a while, and finally became head of the Department of Horticulture at the University of New Hampshire, Durham, N.H. Recent bulletins describe his progress since moving there, and the list of new originations and new projects is so long that it is a marvel to realize that one man is directing all those activities. The mark of Prof. Yeager's work is originality, the capacity to see the field as a whole without the hampering ideas that familiarity with other's work would be expected to induce.

The work with tomatoes has continued, and some of the recent varieties from him include Victor, a cross between Allred and Break-O-Day, Early Chatham, a variety even earlier than Victor, descended from Victory by Redskin. Prairie gardeners are especially aware of these varieties, but they are grown in a wide area outside of the prairies of Canada and the U.S.A. Of Victor he has a new strain named New Hampshire Victor, a cross between Marglobe and Allred.

New Hampshire Victor became the parent of Orange King, by crossing with Orange Dawn, a sport of Scarlet Dawn. This is a determinate tomato, with fairly large fruits that ripen at a medium early date. Yellow fleshed tomatoes have a certain appeal, but orange is likely to be more attractive than yellow. Another orange variety is Orange Chatham, a cross between Chatham and Orange King. Both these varieties are probably novelties only.

Another novelty is Tiny Tim, a very dwarf-vined variety which can

be grown in a 3½-inch pot, and was thought to be of ornamental value occupying something of the place of the Jerusalem Cherry. When planted in the field, it makes a plant twelve to twenty-four inches across and bears quantities of cherry-sized fruits.

Windowbox tomato is the best adapted variety to conditions in northern Saskatchewan, in my opinion at least, and just last summer a specialist at one southern Experimental Farm stated to me that he considered it the best variety there too. It came from a cross between Dwarf Champion and Redskin, and combines the extra earliness of Redskin and its determinate habit, with the dwarf stiff plant of Dwarf Champion. For the far north, it is a grand variety, and the name, which suggests that it is not for field use, is somewhat misleading.

Recent work, however, has been more or less concentrated on the origination of tomatoes with a high vitamin C content. The source of the high content of vitamin C was a small-fruited Peruvian wild tomato named Peruvianum, which has greenish-white fruits, sweet when ripe, that are not marketable. The vitamin C content, however, is about four times that of ordinary tomatoes. Only one seed was ripened in the cross between this wildling and the ordinary tomato, but, by segregation and backcrossing, many new strains were secured and finally one was named High C. This interesting new tomato, a determinate one, is slightly earlier than Victor, and the fruits come about five to the pound. They are round, red, and very firm. The vitamin content is roughly twice that of standard tomatoes. It is an extremely productive sort, and is at its greatest value at the northern limits of tomato production. Other varieties with high vitamin content are in preparation. To quote: "While some of these varieties may not in themselves become important in large commercial tomato-raising sections, they provide a basis for the development of canning varieties of greater value. Thus, the vitamin C content of commercial canned tomatoes might easily be doubled, making tomatoes equal to oranges as a source of vitamin C."

I could go on to describe the breeding project conducted by Dr. Yeager in watermelons, muskmelons, squashes, peppers, peas, eggplants, popcorns, beans lima beans, cabbage, Chinese cabbage, and carrots — also work in fruits such as strawberries and red raspberries, and ornamentals such as lilacs and honeysuckles. If I did, the editor might reject my manuscripts entirely, as too long. However, another day is coming.

*Love is like an onion.  
You taste it with delight  
And when it's gone you wonder  
Whatever made you bite.*

Nancy, aged 7, was sometimes very naughty. On one of such times her mother desiring to be more than usually impressive said, "Don't you know if you keep on being so naughty your children will be naughty too?"

"Oh, Mother," Nancy cried in glee, "you just gave yourself away."

*There was an old man in a hearse  
Who murmured, "This might have  
been worse;*

*The expense  
Is immense,  
But it doesn't come out of my purse."*

# A Great Frontiersman and Pioneer

By BEATRICE CLINK

A GREAT many place names in Alberta, if you look into the past, recall vivid pictures of the bold and venturesome spirits who long ago saw the vision of this great new land. They braved the hardships and perils of the unknown to be a part of this land of promise. It is fitting that we should try and remember some of their exploits.

Driving out of Edmonton by the new Beverley bridge, you climb the hill and come to the little hamlet of Clover Bar, so-called from the California miner, Tom Clover, who ninety years ago panned gold from a sand bar in the North Saskatchewan River nearby.

But if names were given according to the importance of certain pioneers in the life of the settlement, it might well have been called Ottewell or perhaps Ottewellton. This would have justly honoured the courageous frontiersman, Richard Phillip Ottewell, who braved the danger of hostile Indians and battled the harsh elements of the early West to establish agriculture in this area, August 7, 1881.

The story of R. P. Ottewell's journeys to the west reads like a history book. He left Bruce County, Ontario, in 1869, going by steamer to Superior, Wisconsin, and thence to St. Paul, Minn. There he met some freighters bound for Fort Garry with Red River carts, and joined them. After a journey of 500 miles they reached the fort, August 7, 1869.

## Metis Rebellion

He then took a job with the survey group building the government road from Fort Garry to Port Arthur. The rebellion of the Metis broke out and the workmen were imprisoned in the fort by Louis Riel's Provisional Government until January 16, 1870. Their only food was pemmican.

The prisoners were finally released but ordered to leave the country in 40-below weather, in six hours, or be shot. Mr. Ottewell's cell mate, John Scott, who had angered the halfbreed leader, Louis Riel, was tried and executed by the Metis.

In July, 1870, Mr. Ottewell joined the Red River Expedition as a voyageur under Colonel Wolsey who was on his way to restore peace and order to Ft. Garry. Subsequently he returned to Ontario and married Miss Francis Trevillion. But he still felt the call of the West.

In May 1881, he set out from Winnipeg with two teams and wagons loaded with supplies for Edmonton, accompanying a party of freighters. The route lay through Portage La Prairie and Fort Qu'Appelle. Near the latter fort, Sitting Bull and his Sioux were encamped after their retreat from the famous Custer massacre. Every moment the Ottewell party was fearful of attack and made camp without a fire. A white woman, who had been captured by the Indians as a baby and raised as their own, suddenly appeared and begged them for some food for her hungry children. After giving her some, they passed on safely through the district.

They arrived at Strathcona on August 3, 1881. While the horses and oxen rested up in Edmonton, Ottewell scouted across the river and on August 7, 1881, established his homestead in Clover Bar.

## Homesteaded in '83

By 1883 the pioneer had his homestead and started out in November to go east for his family. The ice

was forming in the river and no one else would attempt to cross, but he volunteered to drive the stage across. He succeeded in finding open water two miles below Edmonton where he forded the river. He then drove the stage and its mail up the river back to Strathcona. He went back to Bruce Mines, Ontario, and returned in July, 1884 to Clover Bar with his family.

"It was like a peavine, a jungle of forest, when he came," recalled Frank Ottewell, his son recently. "He cut his homestead out of the bush by hand. For shelter, at first, he threw up a sod-roofed hut. Then he started building the old log cabin where most of us were born."

In 1885, during the Riel Rebellion, the Ottewells, carrying what they could of their belongings, fled to Fort Edmonton where "R. P." served as a sentry.

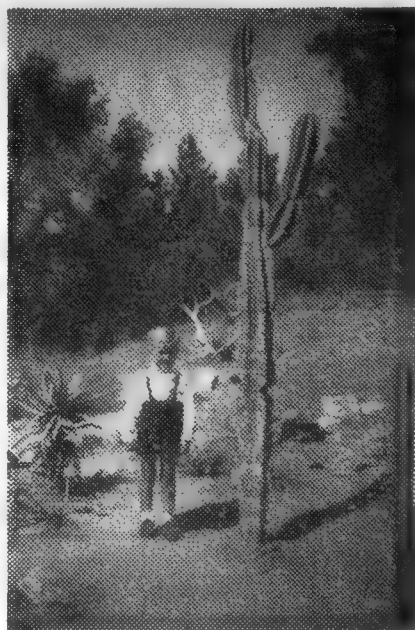
The Ottewells flourished and early in the century, the pioneer built a

15-room brick house on their farm. As Edmonton grew, the Ottewell farm enterprise turned from grain to dairying. The land rolls gently east up from the river. Today it is as rich as it ever was, because of the good farming the late pioneer and his sons believed in.

But farming is on its way out at Clover Bar. Three oil refineries and the Interprovincial Pipeline terminal have arisen out of farms south and west of Clover Bar. The Ottewell home quarter sections are now the site of a huge chemical plant.

"When old Mr. Ottewell first came the land was worth nothing," said a neighbour. Ten years ago a man would be lucky to get \$50 an acre. Now it's \$600 and \$800 an acre. A farmer can't afford to hold his land at these prices."

Holland, the gardens of Western Europe, exports horticultural products worth \$160 millions a year. The Dutch are industrious and masters in the art of gardening.



Ralph Smith, in the "desert", at the Summerland, B.C., Experimental Farm.

# The West's most famous coffee

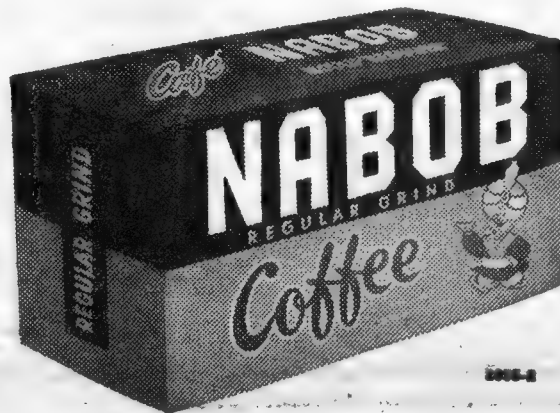
# FLAVOR



What is it that makes one cup of coffee a taste sensation and another just an ordinary beverage? The answer is flavor . . . the rich, mellow, satisfying flavor of the world's finest coffee beans. Coffee lovers throughout Western Canada have found the coffee flavor they enjoy best in delicious Nabob coffee. How about treating yourself to the best coffee you ever tasted? Get Nabob coffee next time you shop.

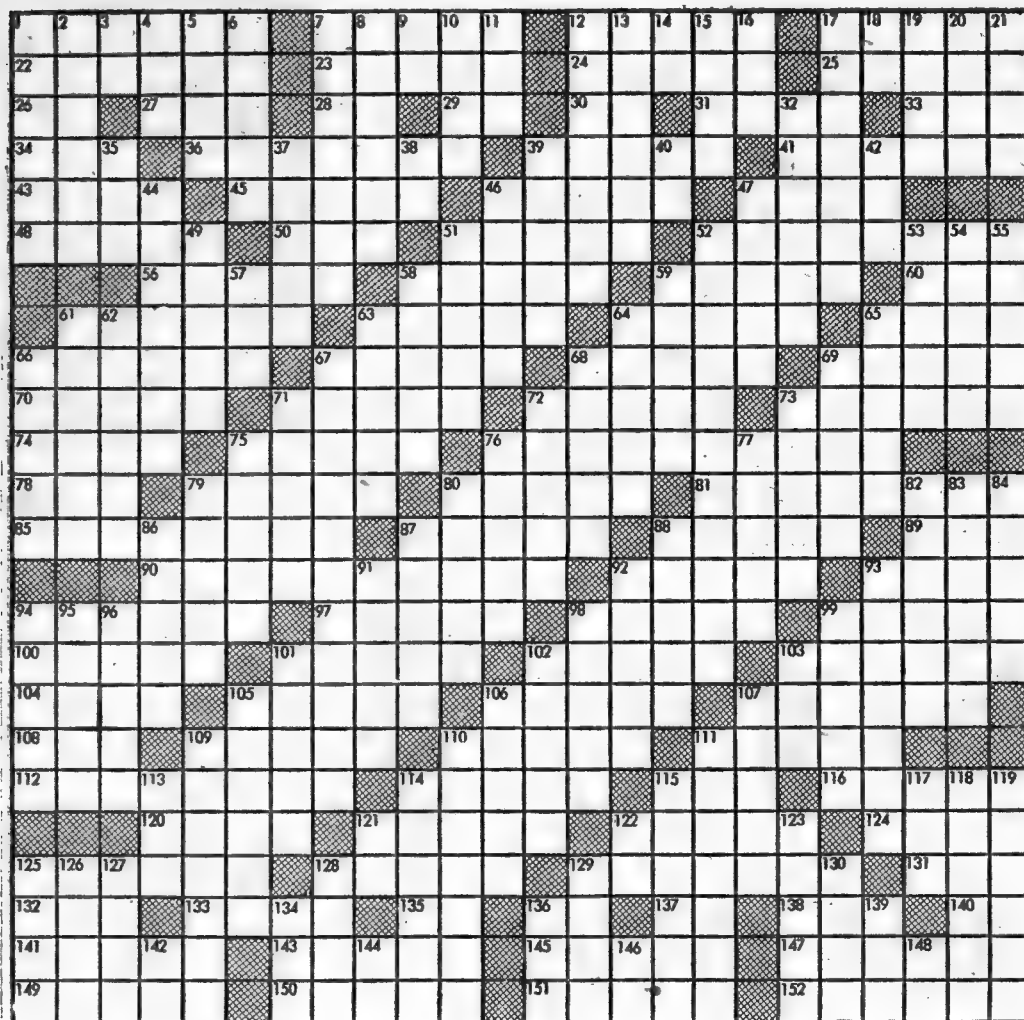


To make  
good coffee...  
start with  
good coffee,  
start with  
**NABOB**





# Our Crossword Puzzle



## HORIZONTAL

- |  |                             |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Vital organs                             | 67 Gaped                    | 103 Number (pl.)                  |
| 7 Journeys                                 | 68 Old German coins         | 104 A unit (pl.)                  |
| 12 Secret agents                           | 69 Maturer                  | 105 The ---- Mutiny               |
| 17 One who receives stolen goods           | 70 Quarrel                  | 106 State                         |
| 22 Last                                    | 71 Hashed                   | 107 Fondle                        |
| 23 Gun                                     | 72 Parts of ship            | 108 Perform                       |
| 24 Investigate                             | 73 Skull-bone cavity        | 109 Boat                          |
| 25 Utopian                                 | 74 Grudge                   | 110 French river                  |
| 26 By                                      | 75 Change                   | 111 Lowest point                  |
| 27 Sesame                                  | 76 Portions                 | 112 The Parts of ---, Eng. county |
| 28 Printer's measure                       | 77 Rude hut                 | 114 Percolates                    |
| 29 Faroe Islands' windstorm                | 78 Digging implements       | 115 Tattered cloth                |
| 30 Japanese measure                        | 79 Related                  | 116 Slaves                        |
| 31 Nautical signal                         | 80 Stratagems               | 120 Turkish title                 |
| 33 Black bird                              | 81 Recompense               | 121 Kicks on fourth down          |
| 34 By way of                               | 82 Compass point            | 122 Festivals                     |
| 36 Gratified                               | 83 Part of Great Britain    | 124 To disturb                    |
| 39 Suggests                                | 84 Oral                     | 125 Thoroughfare                  |
| 41 Troops stationed on wings of Roman army | 85 Amulet                   | 128 Legal actions                 |
| 43 Great Lake                              | 86 Arranged in a series     | 129 Rejects                       |
| 45 Satisfies                               | 87 Spanish title            | 131 Animal's foot                 |
| 46 Simpleton                               | 88 Pertaining to river bank | 132 Genus of grasses              |
| 47 Let it stand                            | 89 Fourth calf              | 135 Tidy                          |
| 48 Tend                                    | 90 Founded                  | 136 Chinese measure               |
| 50 Radical                                 | 91 Foot coverings           | 137 Combining form: dawn          |
| 51 Italian poet                            | 92 Rotate                   | 138 City in Chaldea               |
| 52 Talked glibly                           | 93 Pursuer                  | 140 Earth goddess                 |
| 56 To bury                                 | 94 Large box                | 141 Dialect                       |
| 58 Vehicles                                | 95 Parts of legs            | 143 Rotating part                 |
| 59 Theater seats                           | 96 Volcano on Martinique    | 145 Grecian peninsula             |
| 60 Collection of sayings                   | 100 Puzzle                  | 147 Looking glass                 |
|  | 101 Tale                    | 149 Age group                     |
|  | 102 Achieves                | 150 Steeple                       |
|  |                             | 151 Booth                         |
|  |                             | 152 Discolors                     |

## VERTICAL

- |                                       |                                |                                    |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 Disease of horses                   | 52 Total of inhabitants (pl.)  | 94 Noise of frog                   |
| 2 Whole                               | 53 Swift                       | 95 From this time                  |
| 3 Paid notice                         | 54 Growing out                 | 96 Aids                            |
| 4 Wheel track                         | 55 Fruit (pl.)                 | 98 Cruises                         |
| 5 Journey                             | 57 Spread for drying           | 99 Persian elves                   |
| 6 Transfers for money                 | 58 Throws                      | 101 More rational                  |
| 7 One who bears entertainment expense | 59 Ship                        | 102 Labors for breath              |
| 8 Light wash                          | 61 Hairy                       | 103 Mournful                       |
| 9 Whether                             | 62 Deer's horn                 | 105 Philippine province            |
| 10 Trudge                             | 63 Female horses               | 106 Joins                          |
| 11 Bishop's jurisdiction              | 64 Competitor                  | 107 Confines                       |
| 12 Short races                        | 65 Reaches across              | 109 Binds                          |
| 13 Son of a sovereign hawk            | 66 Officers on ship            | 110 Hazardous enterprise           |
| 14 Hawaiian                           | 67 Denunciation                | 111 Unassumed                      |
| 15 Recedes                            | 68 Stupor                      | 113 Golf mound                     |
| 16 Observe                            | 69 Become tainted              | 114 Wooer                          |
| 17 Bands for hair                     | 71 Heaped                      | 115 Fill tank with petroleum again |
| 18 Man's name                         | 72 King of Judea               | 117 To tear                        |
| 19 Close                              | 73 ---Minor                    | 118 Pitcher for liquors            |
| 20 Walking stick                      | 75 Liquid                      | 119 Conduits                       |
| 21 Nome in Greece                     | 76 Hindu queen                 | 121 Early Chinese coin             |
| 22 More recent                        | 77 Adhesive bands              | 122 Symbol for iron                |
| 23 Atmosphere                         | 79 Articles of merchandise     | 123 Limer of juncture              |
| 27 Having hearing organs              | 80 Trivial                     | 125 Quarrel                        |
| 28 Plural ending                      | 82 Trees                       | 126 Pulled apart                   |
| 29 Pursues game                       | 83 Foreigners                  | 127 Rant                           |
| 30 Symbol for tellurium               | 84 Baseball teams              | 128 Halt                           |
| 32 Goddess of infatuation             | 86 Phrygian town in Asia Minor | 129 Part of plant                  |
| 34 Manifested                         | 87 River of Europe (Fr.)       | 130 Roasting iron                  |
| 36 Casts shadow over                  | 88 German river                | 134 Land measures                  |
| 37 Wise men                           | 91 Ugly old woman              | 136 Printer's measures             |
| 39 Go in                              | 92 Polish                      | 139 Malay coin                     |
| 41 Blowgun missiles                   | 93 More rigorous               | 142 Upon                           |
|                                       |                                | 144 Palm                           |
|                                       |                                | 146 Sun god                        |
|                                       |                                | 148 State (abbr.)                  |

Solution on Page 31

## Letters to the Editor

The Editor:

In the last issue of your paper I saw a write-up by John Lait about growing the first flax in Western Canada. In 1886, my neighbor John J. Ross of Eastern Saskatchewan (N.W. 2, Tp. 22, Rge. 1, W. 1), brought seed flax from Winnipeg and sowed it that year but it was a failure. He also brought in the first stinkweed seed in that part of the country. The district was one of the first settled in that part of Saskatchewan.

John Baird.

Penhold, Alberta.

\*\*\*

## The Gas Pipeline

The Editor:

The present ridiculous fiasco of the eastern gas pipe line demonstrates conclusively — first, the power and influence of big business over governments; second, that so-called "Free Enterprise" is not free and is far from enterprising; third, that we lack in Canada today in both government and business, men of the calibre, the resource, the initiative, the vision and above all the courage of men like Sir John A. MacDonald and Sir William Van Horne, who had the stupendous job of putting the C.P.R. through, thereby uniting Canada.

A long time ago in these columns I suggested that this whole pipe line be built by public ownership to guarantee first, proper conservation and assurance that Alberta's requirements would be of prior consideration; second, that gas producers in Alberta would get a reasonable return for their production; third, that all consumers, east and west, would not be unduly exploited. There was a loud howl of derision at this proposal. "Private Enterprise would do the job and do it in jig time."

Let us look at some of the things that have taken place since. Their undertaking, a mere flea bite compared to the C.P.R. railway, was to cost so many hundred millions of dollars. Various groups wanted to build it. There were amalgamations, shotgun weddings and finally appeals to the Federal Government for a guarantee. The government laid down its safety factor of control. A big American outfit objected. That went flat. Another big outfit south of the border came in. Suddenly there appeared the problem of the land of rocks and Christmas trees around the Great Lakes. Great private enterprise couldn't possibly tackle that proposition. All the people of Canada must do it. Ontario and some courageous members of the Federal Cabinet whispered, "If we have to build the tough part, why not build it all and then own and control it ourselves?" Big business said emphatically "No". Ontario and the aforementioned cabinet ministers capitulated. Nuff said. However, some body of men in faraway Washington have some say about some very important phases of this undertaking. They can easily knock out the props. If that happens Ottawa and the majority of the Cabinet will have a major job of reconsideration facing them. For the future of Canada let us hope they adopt just a little bit of the courage of MacDonald and Van Horne.

Jack Sutherland.

Hanna, Alberta.

\*\*\*

Alberta's gas reserves were estimated at 15,600,000,000,000 cubic feet on June 30, 1955. During the next 30 years the figure is expected to reach 60,000,000,000,000 c.f.

# Pioneers Of Three Creeks

By MAUD STRIKE

THE first three settlers to arrive in what is known as the Three Creeks District, in Saskatchewan, were S. Strike, W. Shann and C. Rodgers. This was in April, 1905, and this made them the first homesteaders to cross the Shell River at that point.

C. Rodgers threw up his homestead a year or so later and re-filed on another quarter south of the Shell River. H. W. Payne later homesteaded the abandoned quarter section and still retains ownership, though now residing in the town of Shellbrook. His brother and sister-in-law settled on a quarter to the east side of the district and south of the Shell River. J. Payne arrived in 1903, and he and Mrs. Payne are now residing in Shellbrook.

Their three daughters were sent to their aunt in England where they made their home. Their farm has changed hands several times since then.

As the years rolled on, more land was cleared and broken for grainfields. Stock keeping was a general rule as no one could buy milk and butter as easily as today. It was simply to have their own milk cows or do without. Oxen were the order of the day for the new arrivals, but these were discarded for horses as soon as possible. Cars were only making their debut elsewhere on the continent but to the pioneers they were unknown. Walking or riding in an ox- or horse-drawn wagon were the sole means of conveyance, though several families purchased buggies and demerats a few years after arrival. The sleigh

mer, this was not the case in pioneer times when the land was heavily wooded and rainfall high.

Time has wrought great changes and many of the hardy pioneers have long since passed on. Among these were Fritz Fehmling, who died in 1921. Of the original settlers in the district only Mr. and Mrs. Strike remain. Mr. and Mrs. A. McAteer who arrived some years later, also still reside in Three Creeks. The school has been closed to make way for the larger unit, but the district name remains unchanged. A tribute to the pioneers who saw the possibilities in an unopened country and saw fit to remain and build homes. They builded better than they knew.

## Improving Wild Fruits

AN area of forty acres of sandhill and muskeg near Crimson Lake, in the Rocky Mountain House district, is being utilized by the horticultural branch of the University of Alberta as an experimental plot for the development of better quality of cranberries, blueberries and other wild fruit. Dr. R. J. Hilton, professor of horticulture, brought in specimens of the narrow-head blueberry, the eastern wild blueberry of commerce, which spreads rapidly and is highly productive under eastern conditions. It will be crossed with the native species.

Also set out in the Crimson Lake project are selected cuttings of native upland cranberry. These have been planted under controlled conditions of shade, slope and fertility in an endeavour to discover the effect of varying environment on growth and yield. Plants of native cranberries and blueberries (upland cranberry, swamp cranberry, Canada blueberry and dwarf blueberry) have been brought into the University greenhouses where it is hoped to establish and grow them for breeding purposes along with species from other parts of Canada. These other species include a few hybrid blueberries and a seedling of the large fruited cultivated blueberry of Ontario and the Maritimes.

With a human population of 9,000,000, Australia produces 130 million head of sheep a year. The Commonwealth derives over 50 per cent of its export income from wool and produces about 40 per cent of the world's total wool production. The average greasywool production per head from Merinos in Australia is 10 lbs.

was the first mode of winter travel, though several owned cutters within a short time.

One Norwegian who resided in the district for a short time relied on snowshoes as his sole means of winter travel. One Sunday morning in bitter cold weather he snowshoed across country to Shellbrook and awoke the Chinaman at the restaurant, asking him to prepare his breakfast before six a.m. The Chinaman obliged.

The Munson family arrived in 1907, and P. M. Day several years before, to be followed by his nephew and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Stunkard. Mr. Stunkard died in 1937 and his widow returned to Indiana to live. His farm has now passed into other hands.

The Whitney families, father and son were among the early arrivals, and a family named Lennon preceded them, returning to the States after a few years.

Some did not remain sufficiently long to contribute greatly towards opening the district, but others speedily bought or filed on the land they left. More acreage was sown to crops until today there are few acres untitled. Two creeks, the Vant and the Sucker, wind their way through the district and though the former remains dry through most of the sum-



C. K. Smith, teacher at Three Creeks school, with Dorothy Strike, now Mrs. Clifford Early, of Foxdale, Sask. Photo taken in 1917.

Everything started at scratch and a new life had to be carved from the wilderness. Timber had to be felled and new sod turned to start the grainfields. Other families began to arrive. These included Mr. and Mrs. Stahle, Mr. and Mrs. Fehmling as well as others. Mr. Stahle sold his farm in 1923 and returned to Wisconsin to make his home. There he suffered a stroke and died some years ago, but Mrs. Stahle still lives there.

Willis Lee and his brother Wal. homesteaded a quarter of land each to the far north-east of the district. Both of these men have since passed on. Others settled the remaining land surrounding them, including one family who on returning from a trip to town discovered their homes and its contents burned to the ground and only some blankets hanging on the clothes line left as their sole possessions.

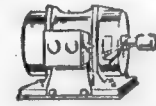
Once a beginning was made it did not take long for more people to settle in the wilderness. J. Murphy and his father were among these as were the two Shaw brothers from Nottingham, England. W. Shaw died in 1923, but E. Shaw now resides in England.

The school was built in 1913-14 and opened in August, 1914. Each successive year was a different teacher, and for the term of 1917 C. K. Smith taught the school.

John Bicknell arrived early and for the better part of two years his wife and two daughters resided on his farm, returning to the States and never came back. John Bicknell sold his farm in 1927, but remained in the district for a year or two, finally returning to his old home in Michigan.

Life had its ups and downs, its tragedies and its joys. One of the saddest events in the district was the untimely death of Mrs. W. Shann on Christmas, 1917, followed by the suicide of her husband a month later.

## WAR SURPLUS BARGAINS



2,500 WATT,  
110 VOLT

### GENERATORS

2,500 Watt 110 Volt AC Generator BRAND NEW — heavy duty 2,500 watt 110 Volt AC — 60 cycle single phase 1,800 R.P.M. Self-excited, ball bearing. These generators were built to rigid government specifications and will give years of dependable service. Can be run off of tractor or 6 H.P. gas engine. Includes 2 Outlet receptacle. ONLY **\$195**

### BRAND NEW

AKS Wisconsin Gas Engines—3 to 6 H.P. SPECIAL

**\$99.00**

### Hand Hydraulic Pumps



New Airforce Surplus. Used for hydraulic jacks, presses, hoists, etc. Complete with

**\$9.75**

handle, \$45.00 value. EACH

### DOWTY "LIVE LINE" HYDRAULIC PUMPS

New Airforce Surplus. Rated 5 G.P.M. To 1400 P.S.I. EACH

**\$18.50**

### 2" Fire Hose

Double jacket, rubber lined, good as new. 5 ft. lengths with couplings

**\$25.00**

### Small Double-Acting Cylinders



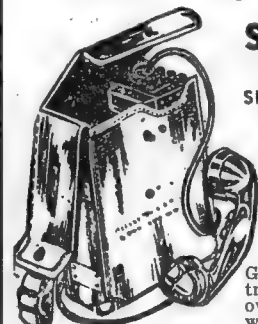
Brand New, 1" bore, 3" stroke for small Hydraulic application, capacity 700 lbs. SPECIAL We can supply all sizes. Hydraulic pumps, Valves, Cylinders, Hose.

**\$4.25**

### Field Telephone

#### Systems

SETS OF TWO



**\$35.00**

Gives clear transmission over 17 miles with two wires, 10 miles with single wire. Any connected wire, even barbed wire will serve. Useful for farm, ranch, factory, logging and construction work, resorts, etc. Telephone linesmen. Available in either wood or leather case, state preference when ordering.

SEND 25% DEPOSIT

With order, or, if you wish to save C.O.D. charges, send money order to full amount. Satisfaction guaranteed.

## RIBTOR

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DOMINION SEED HOUSE  
GEORGETOWN, ONT.

## MACDONALD'S BRIER

Canada's Standard Smoke



# New Year's Greetings

FROM THE

## Alberta Wheat Pool

On the occasion of the advent of a New Year the Alberta Wheat Pool extends greetings to all. May "1956" bring peace to the world, expanding world trade, greater amity among nations and may the human race take to heart the truism that the good or ill of one nation is the good or ill of all.

The Alberta Wheat Pool is entering its 33rd year of existence. In that comparatively brief period of time the organization has had its great achievements, its times of trouble and disappointments. But those in whose hands the control of this farmer-owned co-operative has been entrusted have striven to conscientiously follow the ideals and objectives of the co-operative movement.

In this factory world whose walls are daily being built higher and higher around us, we are in danger of feeling more like mice in some vast generating station; of forgetting that men are more remarkable than anything men have made. It is becoming easy for humanity to feel cowed and crushed before the roar of massed machines and machine-like masses.

The individual needs new armour against the world wherein money and immense power have wielded too much control of human destiny. He needs a sense of his own importance and an opportunity to participate in economic events. The co-operative movement provides such an opening.

The economic life of the Canadian nation requires a strong and aggressive co-operative movement to provide protection for the masses and a chance for the individual to make his voice heard in the business world.

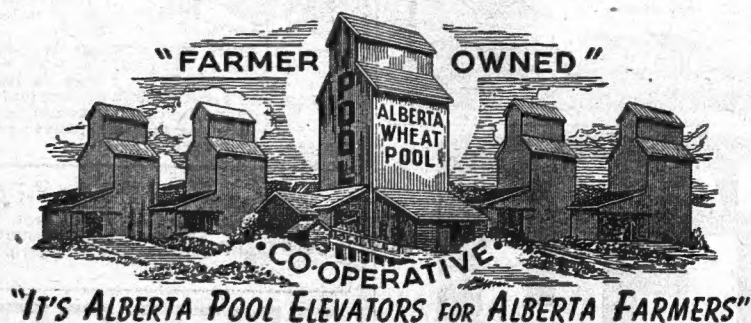
The farm people of Western Canada have, over the years, created many useful, efficient and powerful farmer co-operatives. These can be made more useful through the aggressive determination of farm people to give them consistently loyal support.

The great difference between success and failure, between the feeble and the powerful, the great and insignificant, is energy — invincible determination. That is what the farmer co-operatives of this part of Canada require as a force behind them.

The farm people of the west are passing through difficult times at the present. On many occasions in the past they have encountered similar vicissitudes.

More can be accomplished by the farming people through concentrated effort than through any puny individual attempt to rectify conditions.

In the constant change, in the ebb and flow, of human affairs the greatest benefits the farm people can obtain is by loyally supporting their own co-operative organizations.



New method of grain moving.

This is an illustration of a Jet Vac-u-vator. It is a high-powered carrier of grain, taking the place of auger types. There are three of such machines operating in Alberta now. The Alberta Wheat Pool has one in the Peace River area and one in Southern Alberta.

This machine will draw grain 300 feet and elevate it 70 feet. It operates by a vacuum process and is used now mainly in emptying annexes and transferring the grain to elevators. Operated by a 90 h.p. engine it can move 1,500 bushels an hour. In the process it cleans out dust, beetles and mites and aerates the grain. It can clean a bin out right to the floor.

### Alberta Pool Dividends

THE Alberta Wheat Pool will distribute patronage dividends to the value of \$1,100,214 on grain delivered to Pool elevators during the 1954-55 crop season. This decision was reached at the annual meeting of delegates. The patronage dividend payment will include a reserve credit to individual member patrons of \$697,290 with the balance of \$420,924 to be distributed in cash.

Delegates also decided to purchase \$492,479 worth of reserves from members. This will bring the Alberta Wheat Pool's total cash distribution to members to \$913,403.

Patronage dividends in cents per bushel will be as follows:

	Total	Re-serves	Cash
Wheat and flax ...	2.614	1.614	1.0
Oats, Barley and rye .....	1.307	.807	.5

The dividends will go out to Pool members next spring.

The reserves will be purchased in full from the estates of deceased members no longer engaged in farming and without prospects of further grain deliveries. After these categories are taken care of and if there is any of the allotment remaining, reserves will be purchased from the oldest Pool members.

The Wheat Pool is following a policy of revolving its reserves, with which the ownership of the organization lies, so that they will always be in the hands of men who are engaged in farming.

The working capital of the Alberta Wheat Pool is being increased by \$313,959 to \$7,178,282. Delegates authorized issuing \$89,852 worth of new reserves, thus increasing the capitalization to \$10,000,000. This will be the amount of reserves held by members when this year's patronage dividend and reserve purchase program is completed.

The first men in North America came from the Old World 20,000 years ago. They came from Siberia and drifted down between two great ice-caps, following the Mackenzie river basin to Alberta. So says the historian, Dr. Douglas Leechman, director of the Glenbow Foundation in Calgary. A ten-year study has been made of archaeological history in the area.

### New F. U. A. President

THE new president of the Farmers' Union of Alberta is Arthur W. Platt. He succeeded Henry Young, whose five-year term expired in 1955. Mr. Platt is Alberta born and a graduate in agriculture of the University of Alberta. He was for many years an employee of the Dominion Experimental Farm Service and took a prominent part in the production of the new variety of wheat known as Rescue, which is a sawfly-resistant species. Of late years he has been manager of one of the big grain farms operating on leased acreage on the Blood Indian reserve in Southern Alberta.

### Co-op Life Insurance

IN nine years the Co-operative Life Insurance Co. has grown until it had \$68,500,000 in force covering 52,000 persons. The co-operative is in business in every province in Canada except Quebec. It is now one of the fastest growing insurance organizations in Canada.

Co-op Life is owned and controlled by its policy holders. It is a co-operative in the strictest interpretation of the Rochdale principles. It has developed policies to suit many needs and has consistently maintained a sound investment plan which protects the insurance buyer.

### U. S. Wheat Situation

The United States is likely to have a carry-over of wheat totalling 1,038,000,000 bushels when that country's crop year ends on June 30, 1956.

The statistics as drawn up by the U.S. department of agriculture:

1955 total wheat crop, bus. ....	916,000,000
Carryover from 1954 crop .....	1,021,000,000
Total supplies .....	1,957,000,000

Domestic needs 625,000,000  
Exports, est. ... 274,000,000 899,000,000

Prospective carryover ... 1,038,000,000

The department says it may be difficult to achieve exports of 274,000,000 bushels of wheat this crop year in view of the big world wheat production figures — 7,315,000,000 bushels.



## \$337.50 For a Turkey

AT the Calgary Poultry and Pet Stock Provincial Show held December 5 to 7, the champion turkey, frozen and eviscerated, in the commercial class, was exhibited by Sheinin Ltd., Calgary; F. W. Hardy, of Rosemary, Alta., producer. In the auction sale it brought \$15 a lb., or a total of \$337.50, the buyer being Jenkins Groceries Ltd. This creates a record for Western Canada if not for the Dominion.

In the dressed poultry class, N.Y. style, the champion was shown by R. A. Biebreck, of Carbon, Alta., and was purchased by the T. Eaton Co. for \$6 a lb., or a total of \$136.80.

Also in the dressed poultry class, N.Y. style, the champion cockerel was a Light Sussex shown by Leonard H. Cooper, of Bowness. This bird also won the reserve championship. It weighed 9 lbs. 5 ozs. at auction time and was bought by the T. Eaton Co. for \$2 a lb. When killed the cockerel was under 7 months old.

The champion eggs, large white, 2 dozen, were shown by R. E. Regehr, of Swallow. The large A's sold for \$1.20 a dozen, the buyer being Safeways. The medium white eggs shown by the Riverview Poultry Farm won the championship of that class.

In the large brown A class the championship was won by Leonard H. Cooper, of Bowness, and sold for \$1.20 a dozen to Safeways. Mr. Cooper also won in the medium brown A class and got \$1.00 a dozen from the same firm. These eggs were from Light Sussex hens.

The price of \$2 a lb. for the cockerel equalled the record made last year at the Moose Jaw show and auction. But the Cooper entry weighed 9 lbs. 5 ozs., while the Moose Jaw cockerel weighed 8 lbs.

The cockerel and winning eggs were produced exactly as described by Mr. Cooper in an article in Feb., 1955, issue of the Farm and Ranch Review.

Jenkins Groceries, the T. Eaton Co., and Safeways deserve credit for the liberal bids they made at the auction sale.

## FARM NOTES

Geo. McIvor, chief commissioner of the Canadian Wheat Board expects wheat exports from Canada to be around 252 million bushels this crop year, about the same as last.

Stockmen would be well advised to check their cattle herds for lice now. Apply rotenone or derris root powder if necessary. Cattle lice cause unthriftiness and slow growth in calves as well as loss of weight in older cattle.

Thatcher wheat is not being recommended for south east Saskatchewan this year. The recommended varieties to be sown are the rust resistant Selkirk and Lee.

McIvor Bros., of Ebor, Man., paid \$3,000 for a yearling Shorthorn bull at the sale held at the Toronto Royal winter fair. This was the top price of the sale.

Cattle population in Southwestern Saskatchewan has increased by 85 per cent since 1951. The increase is attributed mainly to the exceptionally good grass years.

Manitoba will probably sow this year 2 million acres to wheat, 1½ million to oats, 2 million to barley and 800,000 to flax, according to J. R. Bell, deputy minister of agriculture.

The Farmers' Union of Alberta passed a resolution which asked the provincial government to enact legislation to prevent persons hunting on farmers' land, except with the consent of the owner or lessor.

Between 300 and 400 carloads of potatoes are exported yearly from Alberta. The favored variety is Alberta Gems (Netted Gems) grown in the irrigated areas. The quality has resulted in obtaining markets as far away as Winnipeg.

Grant McEwan, well-known Canadian agriculturist, is giving a series of radio talks over stations in the prairie provinces every Sunday afternoon. Entitled "Cominco Commentary, the program deals with a variety of farm subjects.

J. H. Wesson, president of the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, claims the Canadian wheat carryover as at July 31, should be 446 million bushels instead of the government estimate of 493,700,000 bushels. Further he maintained that there was only 300 million bus. of millable wheat in the carryover.

At the Hereford sale of stars at the Toronto Royal fair 8 bulls averaged \$807.50 and 22 females \$433. Advance Notice MRC 100, the McIntyre Ranch 2-year-old bull from southern Alberta, winner of the reserve senior championship, brought \$1,525.

Those engaged in dairying should take every precaution against letting milk freeze. It is almost impossible for a dairy plant to get a fair sample for testing if the milk or cream has been frozen. Butter made from frozen cream becomes mealy and will not spread. Frozen cream used in cheese making will not yield as much cheese.

## Solution to crossword puzzle

H	E	A	R	T	S	T	R	I	P	S	S	P	I	E	S	F	E	N	C	E
E	N	D	U	R	E	R	I	F	L	E	P	R	O	B	E	I	D	E	A	L
A	T	T	I	L	E	N	O	E	R	I	B	E	L	L	A	N	I			
V	I	A	P	L	E	A	S	E	D	H	I	N	T	S	A	L	A	R	E	
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S	E	R	V	E	R	E	D	A	N	T	E	P	A	T	T	E	R	E	D	
I	N	T	E	R	C	A	R	T	S	L	O	G	E	S	A	N	A			
P	A	N	T	E	D	M	A	R	K	S	R	I	P	E	R	S	P	A	T	
M	I	N	C	E	D	M	A	S	T	S	S	I	N	U	S	S	P	I	T	
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S	E	R	I	A	T	E	D	S	E	N	O	R	R	I	P	A	L	A	L	
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C	H	A	S	E	R	C	R	A	T	E	S	H	I	N	S	P	E	L	E	
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T	E	E	N	S	S	P	I	R	E	S	T	A	L	L	S	T	A	I	N	

# THERE'S MORE NEWS IN THE MAKING!

MORE LOCAL NEWS...

MORE NATIONAL NEWS...

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ON CFCN'S NEXT NEWSCAST

WHERE ALBERTA  
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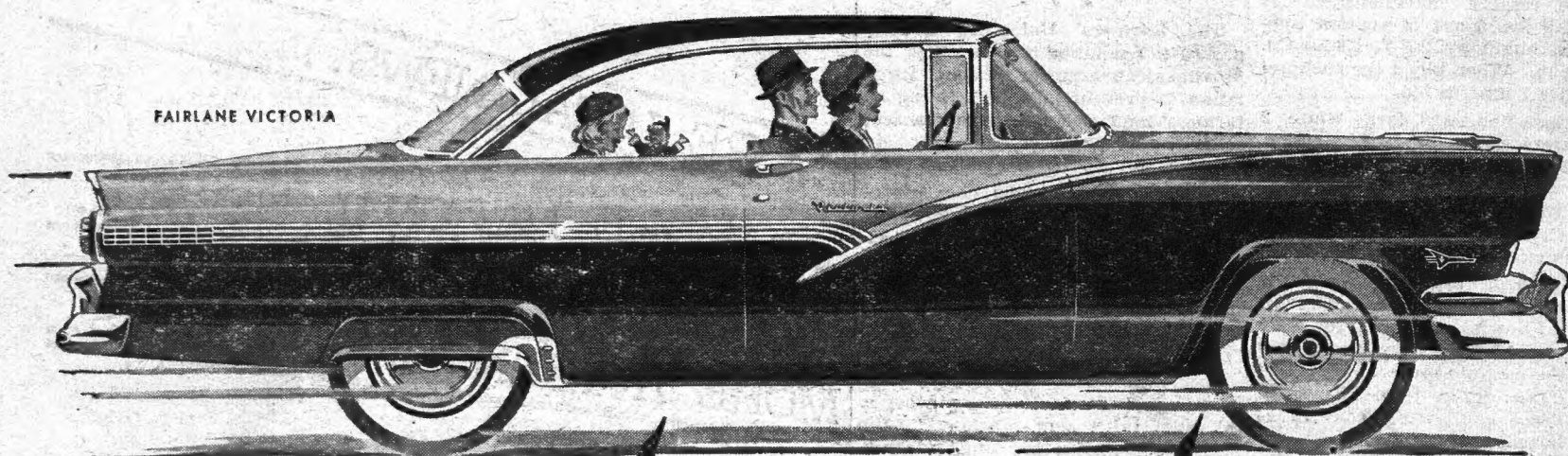




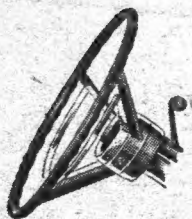
# *NEW...in...out...*

## *and under the hood!*

FAIRLANE VICTORIA



### *With reassuring NEW Lifeguard design inside*



The '56 Ford has a new kind of steering wheel which "gives" under impact, absorbing shock, in the event of an accident . . . and the steering post is recessed more than 3" below the rim of the wheel, as an additional safeguard against chest injuries. Ford has new safety door locks with a double grip . . . designed to stay closed under stress . . . keeping passengers inside the car, where statistics prove they're safer! Ford also offers new nylon-webbing safety seat belts and shock-absorbing padding of expanded plastic for instrument panel and sun visors, at small additional cost.

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### *With dashing NEW Thunderbird styling outside*



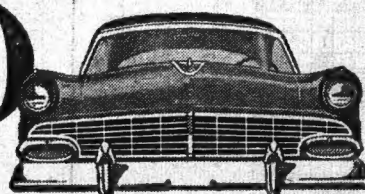
The Thunderbird's head-turning, heart-stealing beauty is yours in the 1956 Ford! You can see it in the wider, smart-looking grille, in the lower, longer-looking profile, in the newly styled headlights and taillights. Ford's richly gleaming baked enamel finishes, in an exciting range of new, high-fashion colours, are perfectly complemented by the luxurious décor of the tastefully appointed interiors. Ford has the look of the Thunderbird, the look of tomorrow!

### *With thrilling NEW Y-8 power under the hood*



Ford's brilliant new Y-8 engine gives you more usable horsepower under all driving conditions. It gives you the kind of instantly responsive performance you need on today's highways, in today's busy traffic. And, because of its deep-block design, Ford's new Y-8 is noticeably smoother running. But just reading about this new performance is no substitute for experiencing it on the road. So see your Ford-Monarch Dealer and take a drive!

# '56 FORD



*Your Ford-Monarch Dealer  
will give you the best deal in town  
right now on a brand-new  
'56 Ford. See...drive...deal  
at your Ford-Monarch Dealer's*

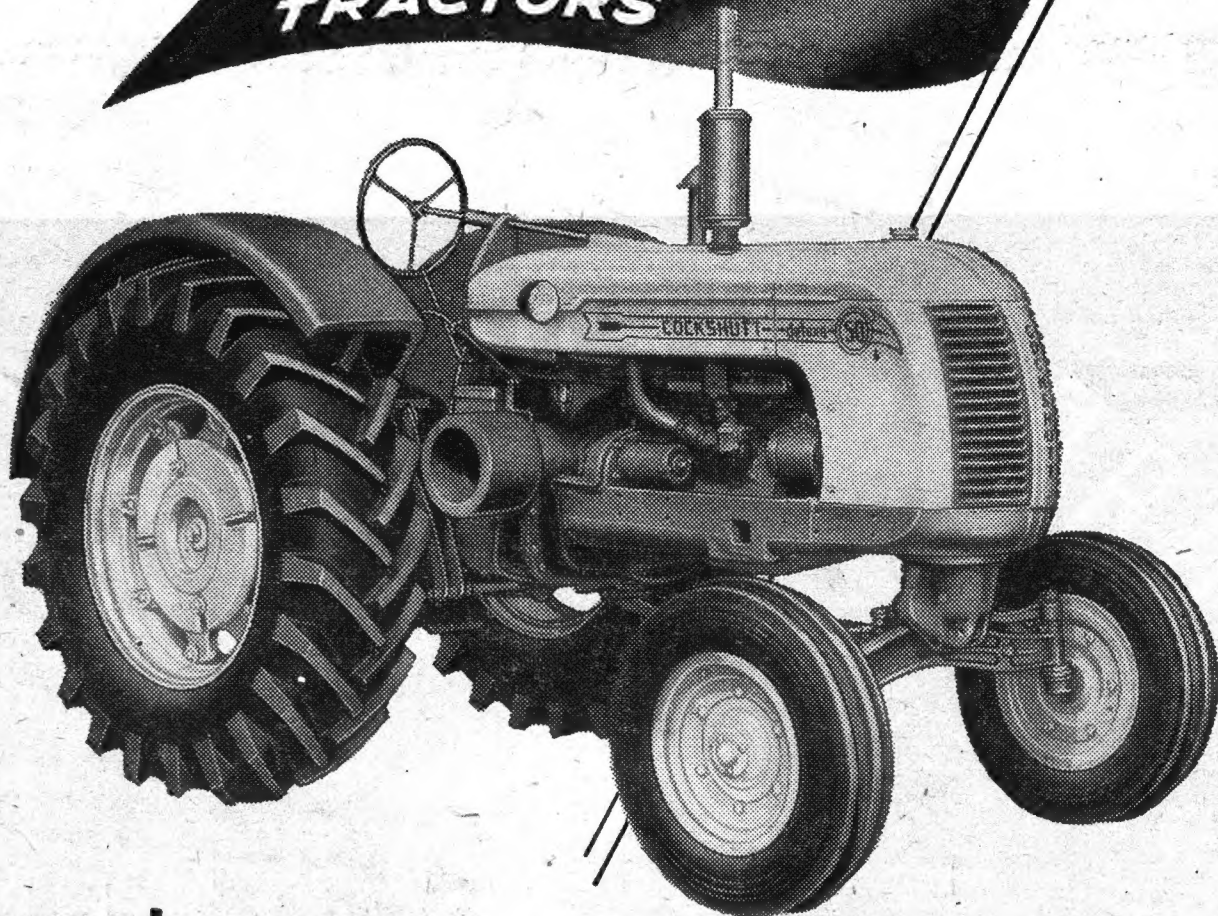
(Certain features illustrated or mentioned are "Standard" on some models, optional at extra cost on others.)





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*Deluxe*  
**TRACTORS**



**Present**

*a new peak in power*

**7 GREAT NEW DELUXE TRACTORS WITH FEATURES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF ANY FARMER — AT PRICES THAT MEAN GREATER VALUE FOR EVERY DOLLAR INVESTED**

**New Cockshutt "20" Deluxe.** Finest of 2 plow tractors with new low silhouette for orchard or other low-clearance work. Efficient, economical 140 cu. in. engine.

**New Cockshutt "35" Deluxe.** Totally new 3 plow, all-purpose tractor. A powerhouse of strength but a miser on gas. New 198 cu. in. engine. Heavy duty transmission. Rugged chassis.

**New Cockshutt "40's".** Your choice of 3 big, powerful engines (one gas, two diesel). 6 forward speeds, 2 reverse. Live PTO and hydraulic system. Three front ends available.

**New Cockshutt "50's".** Available with gas or diesel engine, the "50's" stand alone with their tremendous reserve of power. Six forward speeds, 2 reverse. Live PTO and hydraulic system. Choice of 3 front ends.

They're here for you to see! A brilliant new deluxe tractor fleet, the greatest addition yet, to the world famous family of Cockshutt tractors. Come see them! You'll like the bold racy distinction of spectacular new two-tone colour styling behind which you'll find the muscles of more available horsepower to cope with every tractor job you will ever have to meet. AND up there behind the wheel — sitting relaxed in the new comfort ride tractor seat — you'll find a brand new conception of tractor performance — a "new car" all day handling ease with welcome new conveniences such as new power steering — hydraulic controls to provide fingertip control in all field conditions. Yes, there's a new trend in tractor design — in tractor performance — in tractor values — it's the Cockshutt trend introduced by this great new Cockshutt Deluxe line for '56. Your choice of 7 models ranging in power from the popular 2 plow "20" to the big heavy duty 5 plow "50".

Before you buy any tractor — see the Cockshutt. First in quality — First in performance, a Cockshutt tractor is also first for trade-in value — See your local Cockshutt dealer soon!

**Cockshutt** Farm Equipment Limited

**Brantford, Ontario**